

S. P. a

A MIROVR
For Magistrates
OF CYTIES.

Representing the Ordinaunces, Policies,
and Diligence, of the Noble Emperour, ALEXAN-
DER (turnamed) SEVERVS, to suppress and ba-
stise the notorious Vices noorished in Rome, by the su-
perfluous number of Dicing-houses, Tauarns, and com-
mon Stewes: Suffred and cheerished, by his beastlye
Predecessour, HELY OGABALVS,

vwith fundrie graue Orations:
by the said noble Emperour, cōcerning Reformation.

AND HEREVNTO, IS ADDED,

A Touchstone for the Time:

Containyng: many perillous Mischiefes, bred
in the Bowels of the Citie of LONDON:

By the Infection of some of theale
Sanctuaries of Iniquitie.

By GEORGE WHETSTONES Gent.

* VIRTUTE, NON VI.

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¶ Author: dand allowed.



To the Right Honorable,

Sir Edward Osburne, Knight, Lord MAIOR,
of the famous Cittie of LONDON:

To the Right Worshipfull, his Assistantes, the
Aldermen: And to their learned Counsellor,

Mr. Seriant Fleetwood, Recorder of the
same C I T I E: his approoued
good Frende and Kinsman.

Right Honorable, and
worthie Maiestrates: Among the Lear-
ned, ther is a by Prouerb; O K P H E V S
can describe Hell, better then A R I-
S T O T L E: raised vpon a Fable, that he fetched his
Wife from thence: which is none other, then a confir-
mation, of the sound Reason of P L A V T V S: That,
Of more validitie, is the sight of one eye, then the at-
tention of ten eares: for, in that a man seeth, is Assu-
rance, and in that he heareth, may be Error.

Right Honorable, and Reuerent, I vse this E X O R-
D I V M, to take away the Contempt, which, the plain
Discouerie of my M I R O V R may breede, that make
so sharp a Declaration of Vices, as if they raigned with-
out Chastisement? And do I, with the Deformytie of
Rome, reformed, by Addition, entreate of Abuses? or
more, of daingerous Mischiefes, incloased in the Bow-
elles of this famous Cittie? I doo: and do acknowledg
withall, that you are Iudges of offenders, within your
limittes, and with the Scourdge of Lawe, you chasten
them, or with the Swoorde of Iustice, do cutte them
short, as you finde them: as you finde them, I saye: For

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al- be it, by the testimonie of Holy writ, both you, and all principal Magistrates, haue on Earth, the names and places of Goddes: yet with your fauours, in your, and their Iudgements, are (often) shoven the Infyrmities of men: your sightes are not invisible, and (therfore) necessarie, that you haue visible Lightes, in obscure Corners. A Physition, can not see euery secrete grieffe, but vpon Reucalement, may applie a curable Medicine for a hidden Discease: Euen-so, many can discouer the Mischiefe, the Magistrate seeth not: but the Magistrate (alone, must remedie the same. And where (say you) haue I knowledge, of these concealed Abuses? Forsoothe, **In Hell: where all sinne and Iniquitie, is as apparent, as Godlinesse & Vertue is in Heauen, comon.**

Mee seemeth, I here you answer: That smale is the Maruaile, if you come not there, to harken after Offenders: when the sayng is:

In Hel there is no Redemption.

In very trueth: If Custom haue not made you bold, ye could no sooner enter into the **Common Dricinge Houses, or Hell, in, and about London:** (So, I maye name them, by the Authentie of CORNELIVS AGRIPPA, who saith: that, **the Art was, first, deuised by the Deuill:**) But, you wold imagin the Assemblye, dampned, and you, your selues in daunger, to bee presently destroyed: Gods vengeance is so greuouslye tempted: For, the Deuill can breathe out Iniquitie, no faster, then his Angelles, there assembled, outrage God with the horriblest blasphemies that may be imagined, and too damnable to be reported: What followeth there, wher this despight is done vnto the eternal God? Mary, no villanie, may be vnthought, nor vnwrought, to preiudice men.

THE MAIESTRATES.

It is euery mannes Case, that hath care of his Posterity, to be Duties for Reformation: the euill, is of the Nature of the Oyle of Ieat, that consumeth the Marrow, & perisheth not the Bone. The Marrow & strength of this happy Realme, I mean the Abilitie of the Gentlemen, is much weakned and, almost wasted, by haunting of these vngratious Houses: Yet, for that the Mischiefes be not reprooued, the Remedies are not applied:

Not so fewe, as three hundred Gentlemen, of liuing, are at this Day, more then halfe vndone, by the dangerous frequenting of Dicing-houses: how many, here tofore, haue ben cleane suncke, would moue pittie to number: And for the welfare of such as shall followe, it is highe time, the Corruption were purged: And as the numbers of Gentlemen, by this meanes decayed, are great: so, the numbers of those that liue like Gentlemen vpon their spoyle, are greater: For, if the Shifters in & within the leuel of Lōdon, were, truly, mustered, I dare boldly say, they would amaze a Pettie Armye, I pray god, an easie incouragemēt, arme thē not to a ciuill Mischiefe: for if their forfeats were wel knowē, I fere, thei do acts as vētrus; but my meaning is, not to suspect or acuse any in particuler, although, ther be mani, & too boldly offed. I wish & their Couerts wer discovered, & thē iustice wold soon find their faults, or repētāce, shew their amēdmēt. My Discouerie, being by your wisdomes read, the lothsomnes of this Mischief can not but distemper your senses: and for your safeties, the Infection, I trust, shalbe speedely purged: And in this comon benefite, this glorious Monument shall remain of your godly Trauayles.

London, as she is the Honor of her Countrey:

So, is she become the liuely Exampie of vertue.

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If this Saiynge, bee written vpon her Gates, and
A Whyp and a Halter, the Signe of a Dicinghouse:
Vnthriftes and their Familiars, would, quickly, liue in
other Corners, It is (almost) incredible, what beastly
estate, HELIOGABALVS, left Rome: as great a
wonder, how soone his good Successor ALEXAN-
DER, repayred her Ruines: A Briebe of bothe, whose
Gouernments, I haue set down in the beginning of this
Treatise, to showe, how mightie sinne will grow with
a little lybertie: and how soone, it is quailed with seuer
Correction.

We haue the Image of Vertue, too our Soueraigne
Queene ELIZABETH: the Sages of ATHENS,
to her most Honorable priue Counsell: graue Iudges
in iuditiall places, and worthie Maiestrates, to examine
Offences: by Gods and whose prouidence, our Prospe-
rytie, is so famous, as all the worlde enuie and feare vs.
How great a foile, we are it then, that we shuld deuoure
one another, when, of our superfluytie, many a hungry
Nation is satisfied.

The prudent Maiestrates, haue alredie looked into
our lasciuious inclinatio: & haue enacted Medicineable
Lawes, for these Infirmyties: But the seuerest Lawes,
are not other, then written threatninges, without Exe-
cution, of whose vengeance, all men may heare and no
man doth feele. In times past, a Proclamation, would
keepe men in awe: and now, an Example of Iustice,
scarle, makes the wicked to chaunge countenance: but
althouge, a Braynsicke Iade, wyll ronne with a Snaffle,
a sharpe Bitte wyll bridle him: though an Offender do
iest to here a Penall Statute proclaymed, and say: tush,
the effect of this, will be soone forgotten: yet, in the
meane-while,

meanewile, scowrge him with the paine, and hee will
crie, Peccaui.

To reforme the inconueniences Embleamed in this
Myrrour, neede neither Machauils Pollycies, nor new
Sessions of Parliament: The Remedies are alredie
established, and Administration, will soone worke a-
mendment: Reformation belongeth to the Magistrate
although, the benefite be generall: I (onely) of Zeale,
discouer vnsufferable faultes, but deale not with faultie
men, whom I referre to publique Iustice: And too
your Censures I present my Trauayle, and at Com-
maundement, my selte: Vowing, in Actions of a
true Subiect, to seeke the Honour of this famous Ci-
tie: to showe my selte worthy of my deceased father,
who liued longe in good Credit amonge you, and be-
yng dead, is registred for a good man: no more, but ac-
complishment of perfect desires,

To your Honour and Worships,

George Whetstones.

¶ i.

To

the yong Gentlemen, of the Innes of Court.



Right VVorshipfull,

and Worthie Gentlemen (of the Innes of Court:) vnto you, as vnto one of the fairest Ornaments of this happy Realme, I com-
mende the benefite of this small Treatise:

And I am wel perswaded, in this Dedication, that I salute the best parte of all the yong Gentlemen of Englande: For, what Course so-euer, they afterwarde followe, there are very fewe Gentlemen, but, either are, or haue ben of your Societie: It is verie wel knowen, that these famous Houses, are the first intertayners of your Libertye.

For, (notwithstanding) in your Governments, there are many good and peaceable Orders, yet your chiefest Discipline, is by the Purse. Those that are disposed, studie the Lawes: who so liketh, without checke, maye follow Dalliance: And (certainly) the wanton Alehouses, which you (continually) behold, are not vnlike the Sirenes Inchauntments (were Poets saynings true:) you continually walke by the Adamant Rockes, whiche drawe Silver and Gold, as fast as Iron and Steele: you must be armed with more experience then the capacitye of yong yeares: or els, assure your selues, that Repentance wyll vnloose your Fetters: there is an olde Proverb: Evil Companie, corrupteth good maners: And (truly) I cannot see, how yong men, of the best education: should escape vnpoysoned, when vice is so conuersant with Elder yeares.

Oh, how happie were it for your Posteritye, if, the Innes of the Court, were farre from Dicing-houses, or Dicing-houses, with their Originall, the Deuill. But, if you can not be thus seperated, this little Booke, wyll (with regarde) guide you as safe, as the Clue of threede did Theseus, in the Labyrinth. These Houses (outwardly) are of the substance of other Buildings, but within, are the Botches and Byles
of

of Abhominations: they are lyke unto deepe Pittes, conered
with smothe Grasse, of which, men must be warned, or els,
they can hardly auoide that their eye can not discouer:

You can haue, no fairer warnings then the Steppes of your
Companions falles, no: I, a more fortunate Rewarde for
my trauaile, then to see you (worthe Gentlemen) to flourish.

I beseeche you, to be aduised: It is a more precious mat-
ter, to shun a Mischiefe, by other meanes harmes, then to
learne the goodnes of a thing, by the losse therof. This sharp
Disconerie, will make your staring Deceiuers, my open
Enemies: but I shalbe well strengthened, if my true Affec-
tion, brinde in you a disdain of their fellowship, & let them
spurne their worste, they hurt them selues, that are angric
with good Admonition. I dedicate this Booke to the Ma-
gestrates, to whome, appertaineth the chastisement of euill
liuers, your worst enemies: I dedicate to you (courteous
Gentlemen) the Fruits of Noble Alexanders Counselles, as
becoming your worthinesse: I am but his Trough-man, and
your trustie friend. And (truely) your wisdomes may make
his graue Counselles more profitable then their seuerer Dis-
cipline: for the Medicine is of more value, that preserveth
Health, then that which cureth Sicknesse. The health of a
Gentleman, is Honour & actions of vertue: in which, Alex-
ander (liberally) instructeth you: The Maladie, nay, death of
a Gentleman, is an vndoing to the posteritie, which is haste-
ned, by the sucking of Shifters: Of whome, I (constantly)
hope, the good Maiestrates will ease you: I leaue further
Ceremonies, in my Preface, leaste I seime to iudge you
Wisdomes, who are (for Learninge) a faire Beautie of the
Common-wealth: my plaine Methode, in writing, sheweth
you a large hole to see Daye, which is ynouffe (with an Ad-
uantage) who retayne the vertue, to drayne Honie from a
Wilde: I ende to trouble you, at this time: but in no time,
will leaue to be:

Your assured frende:
George Whestones.

Ad candidum Lectorem: IN LAVDEM OPERIS.


SI te cura iuvat sanctarum (Candide) Legum,
Aut inculpatę præcepta salubria vitę:
Hinc Exempla petas, Morum sit norma tuorum
Hic Liber, et SPECULO te contempleris in isto,
Nam fugienda tibi quę sint industrius Author
Quęque sequenda docet. Liber et labor illius omnis
Huc spectant: Aleas vites, nec Tessera curę,
Nec Gula, nec Luxus, nec desidis Otia vitę
Sint tibi: sed Mores compti, castissima vita,
Et Labor, et rebus virtus exercita duris
Quę Patriam iustis defendere possit in Armis,
Hęc Summa est Operis, nostriq; hęc meta laboris.

IOANNES BOTREVICVS.

¶ faults escaped, the Author being absent.

Leaf.	Side.	Line.	Fault.	Correction.
1.	1.	16.	no cōmon wealth,	in no cōmon wealth.
7.	1.	9.	an Absurditie,	no Absurditie.
8.	2.	30.	his own Daughter.	his owne Death.
9.	1.	13.	Gaius	Caius.
10.	1.	18.	Labozers	barbarous
15.	2.	19.	knights of p land.	knights of the Wand.
21.	1.	2.	attempting	attempt.
21.	1.	2.	innoia.	muoia
28.	1.	11.	fozgetteth	geneth
26.	2.	22.	done	due

In the next Line following, foz reuerenced, reade, reserved.



A Mirrour for Ma- iestrates of Citties.

AFTER THAT THE GOOD
Emperour Alexander (surnamed) Se-
uerus, for his sharp correcting of vice,
had restored the authoritie of the Se-
nate, and had giuen breathe vnto
their good Lawes: of whom the one sate without
reuerence, and the other were read and not regar-
ded, through the inordinate lyberties, and Priue-
leadges giuen vnto vice, by that vncleane Monster
Heliogabalus, his Predecessor: Of the suddaine,
Rome was brightned with the vertues of Justice,
as the world with the beames of the Sunne, after
a horrible and darke tempest. But as there is no
assurance of faire weather vntill the skie be cleare
from cloudes, so (which well foresaw this good Em-
perour) there can be no common wealth a grounded
peace and prosperitie, where there are not Infor-
mers to fynde out offenders, as well as Judges to
chasten offences: In so much, in the prime of his Go-
uernment, accompanied with many graue Sena-
tors, as this good Emperour went vnto the Senat,
in his passage hee might see the Cittyzins busielye
exercised

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exercised in their severall trades: he incountred the Gentlemen in ciuill attire, and of euerie estate, found both himselfe and his Senators, saluted with much honour, reuerence and dutie.

And being in the Senate house, mounted in the iudiciall Throne, he sate long, and was litle occupied with crimpnall causes.

The Senators, no little glozied, that (appealing vnto the iudgement of Alexander) they might lawfully boast, that Rome, which was late a Forrest of wilde beastes, or to speake more properlie, a den of theeuers, a Sanctuarie for Ruffens, a priueledge for Strumpets: a place in whiche no vice was forbidden, nor vertue commaunded, by their great wisdomes was brought into so good an order, as Alexanders eyes could beholde no open offenders, nor his eares heare of any secreat offences. In so much, as after his returne to the Pallace, they lauded the Emperour, with many acclamations of vertue, attributing this happy reformation vnto his pietie, temperance, and Justice: thinking, that in giuing of hym this soueraigntie, he would returne the praises vpon their painefull trauels, with the encouragement, that the magnanimious Cesar gaue vnto his souldiours, saying: that their bloods wrot honor in his forehead, and therefore how precious he esteemed his owne honor, so carefull he was of their welfare. But Alexander, although he were second to none, in the regarding and the rewarding of vertuous Maistrates, yet least by thinking, that this outwarde reformation, had in the common wealth settled an inwarde amendment, and thereby they shoulde growe negligent,

gligent in the administratiōs of their waighty charges, he with a light regarde, attended his owne deserued praises, to reauē them of the hope of particular commendations: yea, that they might wel know that all that glistered was not Golde, that alwaies the inwarde harte, was not discovered by the outward habit: he compared the best gouerned Common welth vnto a faire Aple, which being serched, hath a Coze, and that the worthy Senators, might perceauē their errours, and to amende what was omitted of their owne duties, and necessarie to establish a happye gouernment, in this graue and prudent Oration hee set downe the daungerous estate of the publique weale: and with al, a perfect remedie for the festred and inwarde maladies.

The first Oration of Alexander, the Emperour, to the Senators.

Most graue and reuerende

Fathers, we not a litle reioyce, through the grace of the immortal Gods, and your great wildomes, to behold the famous Rome, but yesterday (in comparison) infamed with al abhominatiōs, by the priueleges of our beastly predecessor, who meriteth neither the name of Emperour, nor man, nowe in possession of her auncient vertues: And as we confesse, that by the deuine and heroyicall blessings, the hoared voyce of Iustice is cleared: So wee like-wise hope, by the same graces, the remembraunce of vice and iniquitie shal-be rooted out.

B.2.

But

But good Senators, to discontinue a prosperous beginning, with a slouthfull imagination, that the Common weale is sounde, because no infirmities appeare, is the vnhappie meane, to blaste the fruites, of your well imployed wildomes, and to inpresse an vncurable Canker in the bowels of Rome. The practisers of Chirurgerie very well know, that an olde and deepe festred sore, wil with easie working of the Surgion, outwardly seeme to heale, but if there bee not Coriues applied, to eat out the roote thereof, this ouer hastie healing will breake foorth vnto a more greuous maladic. Good Senators, vnto you al, it is wel knowen, that the publique weale hath of long time bin infected, with the most horrible vices, that euer humanitie practised: yea, so foule and vn cleane, as ciuill creatures are forbod to recite them, by the sauadge inclination of that Monster HELIOGABALVS, yea so lothsome and fylthy were his abominations, as the worser sort of people, (his faouered seruantes) so detested his detestable and vile lyfe, as they hasted his ouer-long proroged-death. Now that the immortall Gods haue inuested vs with the Imperiall Maiestie, small is the wonder, though there appeare a reformation in the good, when the verie Reprobate were gluttet with wickednesse. But reuerend Fathers, this sweete alteration is no warrant^l to the Magistrate, to be slouthfull in his function, least in not suruayinge of the best, the best them-selues be corrupted, as Moaths consume the finest garmentes, where they be seeldome worne, and lesse ouer-lookte: And although in the better sort, this inconuenience is to be feared, in the worser, this mischiefe is to be certainly expected: they wil vpon euerie temptation returne to their naughtines as a Dog

to his vomit, and therefore these dangerous infirmities in a Common wealth, must be cured as the skiltull Sur-
gion doth a festred sore. Their causes must bee searched
and their nourishing humors purged, and then amend-
ment followeth. The cause of this inordinate lust, this
excessiue drunkennesse, this outrageous prodigalitye,
& to be short, this hel of iniquity among the Romanes,
is euill education: of long time there hath bin no man
ready to instruct them in vertues, nor willing to repre-
hend their vices, the nourishment of these euils are the
Tauerns, Dicing places, and brothell houses, of whiche
Rome hath great store, & they greater store of gues-
tes: so that to rid the publike weale of this dangerous in-
fection, is fyrste and cheefelye to instruct the youth in
good maners, and next to abate the number of these su-
perfluous howses, or at the least, daylie to ouer-see their
dooings.

Thus in breefe, I haue declared some of the hydden
euilles, harboured in the bowels of Rome, which to re-
forme your owne eyes must be as ready to fynde them
out, as you care attentiuely to heare euils reported: you
must bee as well Informers of offenders, as Iudges of
offences: for the desire of Iustice is to roote out iniqui-
tie, and the office of Iustices to inquire after euil lyuers:
And without al doubt, in this carefull proceedinge, in
your visitations, you shall see sufficient example of sin,
to occupie your Iudiciall places with correction. This
vigilant care, will eternize your good beginnings with
glorie, will establish prosperitie in the weale publique,
will comforte the good, and bridle the wicked: yf not
through the loue of vertue, yet for the chastninge of
vice. Thus, you see it concerneth the enrichinge of

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the common wealth, in the seruice where-of the bitter-
nesse of death, should vnto you deeme pleasant: In par-
ticulers, it concerneth the prosperitie of your Children,
Kinsfolke and Allies, for whose benefit you are borne
to trauell: also it concerneth your owne honor, which
you should holde more precious then lyfe: and there-
fore as your Soueraigne, we coniure you, and as fathers
of the Common wealth beseeche you, that you wyll
continue our good beginninge, with the execution of
the Emperours directions: and so we end as we begun,
the prosperitie of Rome, shal highly laude the gracious
goodnes of the gods, & the greatnes of your wysdoms.

When the good Emperour, had in few words
ended this waightie Oration, (or more pro-
perly graue admonition) the fatherly Senators ad-
miring the sound iudgemēt of Alex. beinge of tender
yeares & vnerperienced, in pollices of gouernment,
knew straight waies, that there was a negligence
in their administration of Iustice, which his minde
(continually exercised for the benefyt of the publique
weale) for saw, and to the profit therof, in this louing
maner the same discovered.

To witnesse that they thzoughly conceiued the in-
tent of his repored wordes, by their owne prudent
deeds, they forth with wrought out the wholsome
effects of his godly desire: and y better to search the
core of vice & iniquitie hid in the intrailles of Rome.
These good Maiestrats bled this pollicie, in disguy-
sed habits they entred y Taverns, common tables,
bituling houses, stewes & brothel harbors, without
controlemēt, they viewed y behauiors of the people,
that thei might the better vnderstand the ful of their
abuses: & vpon diligent searche, what founde they:
for

forsooth, Rome like a painted strumpet. The great boast y^e they but lately made of her reformation, had no better assurance then this, a few of the good sette forth their good dispositions at large, & many of the wicked, for a time helde in their lewde inclinations: but counterfetes wil vnto kinde, Copper may holde print but not bide tutch with golde: euen so these hypocrits, as place and opportunitie serued, bewraied their beastly natures. Among these franions, Colonnage was esteemed lawfull marchandise, & dicinge, faice pastime: lechery was held no sin, nor chastity, vertu: ruffens were honored, & the gods dispised: the mouth of vertu was locked, & vice spake through a trumpet. To be short, among them was no law but disorder, nor any thing publique but abhominacion: neither possibill might it be otherwise: for by y^e authority of Heliogabalus, ruffens, barodes & suche other brothel birds, were made senators, yea, y^e basest persons were married to noble women, & they y^e could set abroche most villanies, bare the greatest swayes: & wher such liberty is giuen to offend, sin is so sweete to y^e flesh, y^e there wil appeere no difference betwene men & beasts, saue y^e men do excede beasts in beastlines: and in this accordeth deuine Plato, who saith, y^e those citties, in which ther are no seuerelawes to correct sin, ar rather Forrests of monsters then places habitable for men, & wher as ther was this corruption in nature, there could be no alteratio hoped for but by discipline, which the sequel well proueth.

The change of the gouernment, from a most vile vnto a most vertuous Emperour, purged simply, y^e corruptio of y^e people, for althogh y^e exercise of naughtinesse, were not so open as before, yet y^e euil disposed knew.

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knew where to stauole companions euen in the fore named Hell houses, and which was most to bee lamented, among the scum of the Cittie, I meane Ruffians, Bawdes, Brokers, Cheters, Shifters and others: in these fylthie places, worthe Gentlemen and substantiall Cittizens were daylye founde, the one through vnchristinesse to wast their patrimonie, the other by couetousenesse to purchase the Deuill and all.

When the graue Senatours, had entred into the depth of these foule vicers of the Publique weale, they founde that Dice, Drunkennesse and Harlots, had consumed the wealth of a great number of ancient Gentlemen, whose Durles were in the possession of vile persons, and their Landes at morgage with the Marchants, and how both the one and the other, were confederate to spoyie these Gallantes. They truly certified the Emperour, the dangerous estate of the Common wealth, how that by the corruption of these houses, the Gentlemen had made this exchaunge with vile persons: they were attyred with the Gentlemens brauerie, and the Gentlemen disgraced with their beastly maners: And so much the case was the more to be pitied, for that the remedie was to be doubted: for al-be-it their infections grew by the fylthie conuersation with ruffens, Bawdes, and suche braue baggages, whiche was harde to be cured, that which should comforte them in well dowing, I meane their Landes, were in the possession of the Marchantes, who of the gaine of their bargin will wage frendes to countenaunce their deceitfull dealinges, and then let them barke their

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their worst, their aduersaries will byte them, with their owne teeth. Thus, poore Gentlemen, they are sure to impaire their liuinges: how be it (perhaps) they amend theyr liues.

When the good Emperour, had attentiuely herd this (lamentable) report, hee forthwith made this short answer.

Graue Fathers, you haue certified vs no more, then by reason we sensibly foresaw: it is therefore now conuenient, that we by leueritie pluck vp the roots of wickednesse, which by sufferance are growen to mightye bodies of sin. Therefore our pleasure is, that by expresse Commaundement, the Cittizins of Rome be warned to appeare (to morrowe) before vs, in the Theater of Rome, where they shall openly know their faultes: and by the graces of the immortall Gods, and counsell of our graue Senate, wee shall set downe remedies for this dangerous mischiefe.

This reposed speache of the Emperour, promysed good successe to his graue determinations: in so muche, as the Senators settled in this hope, made (forthwith) Proclamation of the Emperours Commaundement.

And at the appointed time, the grauer sort of the Cittizins, with a multitude of the Communaltie being assembled, the Emperour and a chosen company of Senators, with a sterne countenaunce passed by the people, and mounted in the Chayre of Maiestie, as one distempered with a great passion, with an angrie Countenaunce and a still tongue, hee settled his eyes vpon the Cittizins: And notwithstanding they saluted hym with many dutifull acclamations:

tions: as, Live long, O noble Emperour, the chosen
of the Goddess, the Glory of the world, the Soueraigne
of Kynges, and prosperitie of Rōme: yet he seemed
neuer a whytte the more affable, as wyllynge they
should knowe that his wisdom had searched their
corrupt consciences, & (therfore) little regarded their
dntifull gratulations: In the end, when the regarde
of his displeased Countinaunce, had made them sci-
lent with feare, or (rather) halfe dead with sorrow,
hee quickened them agayne, wi th this sharpe Re-
prehension: as followeth.

Alexanders Oration, to the Cittizyns of Rōme.

IF we knewe, by what proper name to call you, by
that name we would wyll you to giue attention, to
the words we purpose to declare: If we shuld greet
you with the reuerence due ynto Priestes, wee should
highly offende the Goddess and delude men: for, in you
there is no Relygion to serue the Gods, nor Charytie
to lyue Neighbourly among men. If we shuld salute
you, as Senators, your own consciences wold wirnesse
that we mocked you: for the good Senators, trauell for
the benefite of the Publique-weale, and you (only) la-
bour for priuate lucre. It were ridiculous to call you
Gentlemen: for they, by their magnanimous Vertues,
inlarge the boundes of the Empyre, and you, though
you haue craft to dispossesse Gentlemen of their lands,
yet you lacke vallour to keepe the enemy from the sac-
kyng of your Cytties. What? would you that wee
should call you, as the auncient Cittizyns were woont
to be

to be called, good people of Roome? Beleeue me, this is no proper Title for you: for they and you differ in conditions, as good doth from bad. Those Cittizyns or good people of Roome, by their Vertues, crowned Roome with the Honour of a Cittie, and more, with this Title: **The Head of the Worlde**: For, as diuine PLATO saith: it is not sumptuous Buildynges, that giueth name of a Cittie, but the Ciuilytie and worthinesse of the Cittizyns: And on the contrary- parte, you pollute Roome with so many abominati- ons, as where in times past, she hath been called the head of the world, she may now be as aptly called: **the tayle of iniquitie**: If none of all these titles belong vnto you: what name shuld we then giue you? you be of Rome: lyue in Roome, and haue your sustenance from Rome: all this hath Moathes in cloath, Canker-rust in Iron, & Caterpillers in fruiet: Then, **you Moathes, Canker- rust and Caterpillers of Roome**: giue care vnto my words, which shoue you a more assured benefite then your own trauelles: The large Priuiledges of Abuses, which you (of long tyme) haue inioyed, haue (by suffer- ance made a custom of sin: & therefore (in charytie (we are (first) bound, to admonish you with good counsell: if that work no amēdmēt, thē (of necessitie) we must cha- sten you with the Rod of Iustice: But, admit this lyber- tie were without checke, you would be the cōfusiō of your own-selues: you haue experience of the Vermins to whome, wee (rightly) compared you: the Moathe, consumeth the Cloath, and (in tyme) for lacke of suste- naunce, starueth it selfe. The lyke doth the Cater- pyller amonge Fruiet, and with continuance, the Can- ker-rust in Iron. And you, that deuoure the wealth of the CITTIE, dwell vppon the Possessions of

A MIROVR FOR

the Gentlemen, and oppresse the multitude with bondage: what gayne you by this? By Crueltie, you purchase hatred of your Neighbours, and the Ambitious, wyll enuie your aboundance of wealth: and then, this followeth: If they can not be strengthened with forein power, your familiars, wyll invade you with ciuil dissention: For, among those that haue liued prodigally, this rule is obserued: whē their Purses are emptie, their heads are occupied with a thousand mischietes, to compass a newe supply: And (which is most to be feared,) they be not so perrillous cunning in their practises, as they are Deuillysh resolute in their Executions: If they sell you their landes, for money to spend riotously, whē that help is past, they wyl cut off your heads, tyre your Houses, and sacke this famous Cittie, to susteine their lasciuious humoures: For (without speciall grace) in proud minds, want can not suppress desire to spend: You haue reade the experience in the Historie of vnthrifte CATILINE and his Confederats, how he murdered the worthiest Cittezens, without mercie, made spoyle of their Gooddes without lawe, and beseged Roome with a shrewde daunger: you are lyke to be partakers of their Afflictions, vnlesse you bee more moderate in gayning of Gentlemens liuyngs, and they lesse riotous in spendyng of your money. When PHILIP Kyng of MACEDONS, made warre vpon the PERSIANS, hauing intelligence, that they abounded in all maner of delicate vyandes, sumptuous Garments and wastfull expences: he forth with retyred his Army, and said: it was needelesse too make warre vpon those, that within a while, would cut one anothers throates. And truly, though PHILIP

his answere

Pryde and
want, cause of
sedition.

MAIESTATES OF CITIES. 7

his answer were short, his iudgement was waightie: for as mightie Ryuers wyll soone run drie, when their noorishyng Spryngs are turned another way: so wealthy Citties, can not, but be subuerted, when euery man doth cleane contrary to his function. Among the Philosophers, M A N is called, M I C R O C O S M O S, or a little worlde: for that in him is figured, a Modell of the glorie therof. If he resemble the whole worlde, it were an absurditie too make him a Figure of a well-gouerned Cōmon-wealth: a man consisteth of diuers members, as head, body, Armes, legges, &c. So doth a good Common-wealth, of diuers estates: as of a Kyng as Supream-head and Cōmaūder: of godly Prelates, as the heart and nooryshers of deuine vertues: of graue Iudges, Maiestrates and Counsellers, as the body and strength of Common prosperytie: of worthy Gentlemen, as the Armes, hands and executioners of the Maiestrates graue pollycies: of aduentrous Marchauntes, as the legges and trauaylers into forreigne countreyes, for their owne Countreyes cōmoditye: of Plowmen, and inferiour people, as the seete, which must run at the cōmaundement of euery other member. I say, where all these estates, dutifully, doo their Offices: where the Prince doth(iustly) commaunde: the Maiestrates (aduidedly) direct: and inferiour Subiectes (faythfully) obey: there, where this Concorde is, peace and prosperytie, floorysheth in their Citties, and feare, pineth the enuie of their bordering enemies. On the contrary parte, where the head is crowned with a Pantofle, as the Subiect of the vnconstant multitude: where the passages of the heart, whiche is the Organe of the Soule, are fixed with the continuall exercise, of sinne, (the Figure that

the Prelates sownde Doctrine, are but wordes of war-
nyng, and no causes of amendment: Where the brest
and bodie lyes naked to euery peryl, I meane, the good
Maiestrates, are neither reuerenced, feared, nor obayed:
Where the handes are bownde to the knees, in token,
that the Gentlemen are thrawle to the Marchantes:

Where, on the knees is fastened a Cap and a feather,
and about the legges, a Swoord and a Target buckled,
in signe, that the Cittizyns desite the honour they can
not gouerne, and leaue their trauayles, whiche would
inrich the Common-wealth: And where the feete,
which should trudge for euery necessary, should be fet-
tered, in a payre of Stockes: as witnesse of the poore La-
borers bondage and oppression, who, for their necessa-
rie trauelles, ought too bee cheerised. I say: as a man
thus deformed, buckled and bownd on a heape, would
soone perysh, for want of sustenance: euen so, a Com-
mon-wealth, thus confused, would soone be contown-
ded, for lacke of good Order. What Prince, that is
Head and Soueraigne, of such a sauadge and brute peo-
ple: that wyll not (rather) wysh, a Royall Tombe, then
a Princely Pallace: for, in the one, he is priuyleaged a-
gainst the outrage of enemies, & in the other, he is not
safe from the Treasons of his own Subiects. And ther-
fore, you Vipers, which destroy one another, if our lo-
uyng perswasions, may not alter your lewde disposi-
tions: take the aduantage of tyme & my nakednes, giue
me an vntimely death, rather the a dishonorable raig:
for (truely) I had rather die, while the walles of Roome
doe stande, then liue to see her sumptuous Buildynges
on fire, whose ruine is at hand, vnlesse, out of hand, you
amend your corrupt consciences, & the multitude, their
naughtie maners.

At these wordes, (with teares in their eyes) as pledges of sorrowful heartes: the people shouted forth with a lowde crye, their dutifull Affections saying. O noble ALEXANDER, let the Torture of ten deathes, be too easie a payne for the man, whiche but ymagyneth thy Death: Lyue: and lyue long: O most noble Emperour, the lyfe of vs all, and the light, of the Romaines glorye.

¶ Here Sorrow stopped their mouthes: but their dismayed countenances, gaue full knowledge of their inward Repentance: so that the Emperour, both in wordes, lookes and gesture, (more mildely) continued his Oration: as followeth.

Continuance of Alexander

his Oration, to the Cittizyns.

YOU wish him the vengeance of ten deathes, that should; but imagine, our death: And (certainly) Conscience perswadeth vs, your tonges do truely publish the consents of your hearres: but small is the difference, when death and desolation is the ende, whyther you lay violent hands vpon vs, or murder vs with your horryble vices. The body that is in a Consumption, bringeth the head to the graue: euen so, the ruine of the kingdom, endeth the raign of the king: he whose head groweth out of his shyn, whose eyes are set in his knees, whose feete are ioyned to his shoulders, & his other members (semblably) disordred: wold you not (rather) take him for a Mōster then a man? yea yerely, and (doubtles) such a creature wold perysh by his deformitye, wold he not by others, fostered for a wonder: euen so, his preposterous shape in a Common-wealth, when

The overthrowe of a Kingdome, endeth the raigne for the Kinge.

A M I R O V R F O R

every estate liueth out of order, wyl soone come to confusion, & people of the best fortune, but liue as the bōdmen of their enemies.

The first Erector of the Romain walles, was R O M V L V S, yet Roome was nothyng so much bound vnto him, for the envyrnyng of her fayre buildynges, with strong Bulwarkes, as in appoīntyng offices, orders and lawes among the people, to gouerne them in peace and prosperytie: This Romulus, (that Roome might prosper,) hastened the death of his Brother R E M V S, an Act (simply) considered by Nature, very impious, and the vengeance of detestable crueltie: but the seditious disposition of Remus well pōdred, necessytie approoued the seuerytie of R O M V L V S, to be perfect Iustice. The loue we owe to our Parents, ought to be very reuerent and great, because thei gaue vs lyfe: to our brethren, naturall, because of preuytie in blood:

Men ar more
bound to the
common -
wealth then
to Parentes.

to our friends, affectionat, because vertue or benefit is the foundation: But the loue we owe vnto our Countrey, cōmaundeth vs to breake all these bandes of affection, in presentyng the deereft friends, offending against the Weale-publique: yea, in the seruice therof, to make it appeare, that the prodigall spoylles of our liues, giueth contempt vnto Death: That Examples of Kynge and Capital Maiestrates, in this duetie, may be Samplers of Vertue vnto the inferiour Subiectes of Roome, I giue you to vnderstād, how Kyng L Y C V R G V S went into (voluntary) exile, that his good Lawes, might haue long continuance among the Lacedemonians. Kyng C O D R V S (wilfully) ran vpon his owne Daughter, (only) vpon a Prophesie, that the same should deliuer his Countrey from inuasion. A V C V R V S, Kyng M Y D A S

MAIESTRATES OF CITTIES. 9

MYDAS Son of PHRIGIA, hauing knowledge that the yre of the Goddes, would not be pacified, vntil a liuing mā leapt into a great gaping gulph of the earth which ouerthrew many houses, and dyd much hurt in the Countrey: The Kyngs Sonne, ANCV RV S, I say, least some should preuent him, (hastely) kyssed the King his father, his wife and frends, and (couragiously) leaped into this Gulph. What need we further search then the Monumentes of Noble Romaines: CVRTIVS, dyd the like valiant deed of Ancurus. MVTVS SCEVOLE, in disguised Habyte, entred (alone) the Hetruryan Camp, to slay their kyng, who (daungerously) assaulted Rome. GAIVS MARIVS, to ouercome the fierce Cymbrians, sacrificed his deerely beloued Daughter CALPHVRNIA: Death was the certaine ende of al these enterpises: but these Noble personages, weare wondrous vncertaine, whither their Deaths should rydde their Countreyes from daungers, or no: But Louers of their Countreyes prosperitie, maketh neither doubts nor delayes, where great peryll asketh present succour: But, you wyll (peraduenture) saye, that you are redy to spende your lyues, your landes and Goods, to with-stande foreigne Hostilytie, or Domesticall enemies: If you so say, and doo so, Durie challengeth al this, and wildome wylleth a deeper foresight: It is a work of more thank to preserue health, then to cure Sicknesse, for, payn and grife (onely) commendeth Medicine: euen-so, effusion of innocent blood, buthyng of Cytries, and rauishment of Virgins, are the effectes of most glorious conquestes: And truly, he that will giue cause of sedition, though hee after dooth his vttermost to suppress the

D.i.

same,

same, is lyke vnto hym that doth (wilfully) surfet, that Phisicke may heale hym: Your excessive Coueitousnesse, is example of the lyke mischief: yea, this double daunger dependeth thereon: By the same, you vndoe the Gentlemen, whiche are the Beautie of Rome, and the strength of the Empyre: For (al-be-it) lawe-lesse Wolues wyll scarre Sheepe, yet mayned men, incourage Cowardes. Your aboundaunce, can not defende Forreigne Inuasion, when the Gentlemens hartes are nipped with want: nay, it is to be feared, that Enuie and Necessitie, will make them to ioyne with the Enemy, to be reuenged of your Cruelties, or too be relieved of your superfluyties.

HERE WITH, the Multitude cried out, a lowde: Accursed be he, and vnworthie the name of a Citizyn of Rome, that, by vnlatiable Coueitousnes and Usurie, seeketh this publique desolation: what soeuer is thus (vnlawfully) gotten, shalbe restored backe: Hereafter, such vnprofitable members, shal be bridled: Liue vertuous Emperour, and what lack ye finde in vs, resourne it, and we wyll obey you: and he that doth resist, let him be slaine, and buried in Tyber: Your vertue hath restored vs to lyfe, that we are dead: vnto Lybertye, that were in thraldom: vnto Honour, that were dishonoured. In Gouvernaunce, you be our father, whome we well reuerence: by free election, our Emperour, whom we wil obey: in wisdom our soundest Judge, whose commaundemets & counseils, we wil execute, as generall lawes. ¶ Hereat, the Emperour relentid, and with much paine, retayned the teares of his eyes, and (in the ende) comforted the, wth this Condition:

¶ The

The Conclusion of Alex- ANDERS Oration, to the Cittizyns

I Am right glad, that your

Protestation declareth, that you yet hold some portion of Vertue: which giueth vs hope, that the renown of this Noble Realme, begonne by Romulus, shall not ende in you: And if you be constant in this affection, we trust, right shortly, to make the Fame thereof equall in estimation, with the Raignes of any of our Progenitors. And now, I haue fownd agayne your old name wherby I wyll call you.

O ye Children and Successours of the vertuous Romaynes: I say, you victorious people, branches of Romulus, subduers of Realmes, patternes of vertue, and pflowesse to all the world, mitigate your conueous appetites, abandon excessive Vsurie, exceede not the boundes of your popular state, be charitable, and merciful vnto your owne Countrey-men, where their necessitie may be reloued with your abundance: Be you ashamed, that labourers, and rude people, should condemne you of crueltie, for destroying of your Gentlemen (the chiefe ornament, and defence of this noble Cittie.) Remember, that if the state of Senators do decaye, the most vertuous of the Gentlemen are elected in their places: So you, that shall equall them in vertue (for your substance onely cannot make you gentle) shall be aduaunced vnto the state of Gentlemen, according to your demerits.

D.ii.

Now

A M I R O V R F O R T R I A M

Nowe haue we nomore to say vnto you, but applye your selues to the auncient and most laudable orders, as we shal indeuour our selues, by example & diligence, to bring this Citie againe vnto perfection.

When the good Emperour had thus ended his Oration, he caused diuers of the grauest Citizyns, to attend hym at his Pallace, where he commaunded, that by secreete inquirie, they should learne how many Citizyns, by Usurie, or other corrupte bargaynyng, had (absolute possession, or Mortgage of the Gentlemens Landes: and to certifie, (bothe) the names of the Usurers, and the Gentlemen so distressed. Vppon whose certificate, he dealed with the Creditors of the Gentlemē, bestowyng a great portion of money out of his owne Treasure, towarde a generall agreement: as in the ende, he concluded, that the Creditors, should receiue the residue of their Debtes, by a yearly pention oute of the Gentlemens Landes: By whiche means, their Posterity might recouer, what their vniustitnesse had wasted. The Noble Emperour, hauynge brought to passe this hye benefite, for the Gentlemen of Rome, with the possession therof: in this louynge Oration, he instructed them in the Duties of Gentlemen, and (mildely) reprehended the Dishonours of their Reputation.

The

The Emperour Alexander

his Oration, to the Gentle men of Rome.

Gentlemen of Rome, by

the name of Gentlemen I salute you, as Hereditorie Title of your Auncestours vertues, which I hope will alwayes remayne in your hearts: How-be-it, too-excessiue prodigalitie, hath much wasted your liuings, and impayred your credit. But with the blame of your lauiuousnes, I am bound (by the working of pittie) to shew the cause thereof: Which (although it be no excuse in Iustice) yet it must moueth commiseration. The examples of our predecessors wickednesse, is more liuely expressed in your workes, then may be shoven by my wordes, and I hope, his worthie confusion, will be cause of your speedy amendment: Ye, I hold it not a misse, to laie before your eyes, the monstrous euilles, which you haue learned of your late Emperour Helio-
gabalus: that, comparing his wretched ende, with his wicked raigne, feare may reforme, what our louing affection winneth to be amended in you.

This vessel of abhominatiō, so exceeded in pride, that from top to toe, he was attired in cloth of golde, pearle & precious stones, & neuer wore any garment more than once, from his bed-chamber, vnto the place where he mounted vnto his Coch, the walles were decked with tapestrie full of greete pearles, and precious stones, This waie as he went, was strewed with golde and siluer, as one disdainyng to treade vpon earth lyke other men.

Vices of Helio-
gabalus

His Charyot was sometyme drawen with tame Lions,
 sometimes with Elephanes, and sometimes with mar-
 uellous faire Women. The Ringes which he drew
 off his fingers, hee neuer put on againe. The vessels of
 golde and siluer, wherein he was serued, was enermore
 the fees of his seruitors. Suche huge prodigalitie was
 ioined with his incomparable pride. His gluttonie, &
 voluptuousnes was so great, as neere the Sea, his whole
 household was fed with most daintie fowles: and being
 farre within land, they were all serued with all maner
 of fishes. by Poste brought alyue from the Sea: Some-
 time he had for a generall service, pasties of Peacokes
 roonges, otherwhyle Partridges egges, the heades of
 Popiniayes, Felauntes, and the most daintiest Byrdes;
 Neither was this superfluitie alone vpon the Tables in
 his owne Pallace, but in selfe same manner, his Lyons,
 Gray hounds, and other Dogs of pleasure were fed. He
 so much esteemed of thinges that were deare and rare,
 that hearing there was but one Phoenix in the worlde,
 hee offered two thousand Markes to haue it to bys
 Dinner.

His lecherie was so insatiable and withall so vnclean,
 as common ciuilitie forbiddeth the report.

His Puslanimitie was such, as he studied how to be-
 come a woman, and of mooste notorious Strumpets,
 and Bowdes, hee created a Senate, and in a Capi-
 tull, for the honour, hee made vnto them manie Ora-
 tions, and called them his Companions, and fellowe
 Souldiers.

That vice might haue no staye, nor vertue anye pal-
 lace,

MAIESTRATES OF CITIES. 12

sage, he gaue free Charters to all men to vse all manner of villanie. And Sabinus, Vlpianus, and other learned and reuerent Iudges hee banished from the administration of Iustice.

He cruelly put to death many worthie personages, & amongst the people many times let loose Lions, Beares, and other cruell Beastes. In fine, when his monstrous pryde, prodigallitie, and lecherie, had consumed all his own treasure, necessitie & a naughtie disposition, made him to sell the offices of Iustice. But his owne familiar Seruantes and Souldiers, wearie of his abominations, slew him: & drawing his horrible Carren with hooks through the Cittie, they tyed him to a stone of greate waight, and threw him into Tyber, to the end so vile a bodie should neuer be buried: Yet, your owne eyes are Iudges that I say the truth. His death and funerals was as vile and filthie, as, what I haue saide of his life, was sumptuous and rich.

I haue laide the miserie of his death before your eyes, that you should expell the vices of his life forth of your hearts. It was the due of his beastlines, and will be the reward of your insolent liuing without amendment.

You are yet yong, & by provelse may recouer more then you haue by prodigallitie wasted: A vertuous end repairth the dishonors of a vicious life: But shame lyeth, when lewd men are dead. A prodigall and voluptuous humor, I know is hardly purged, bicause the nourishments are many and sweete. But when I consider, that you are Gentlemen, I straightraies hope, that you will easilye subdue these affections. There is nothing more precious to man then life, nor nothing more fearful then death.

Yet

agrista

A MIROUR FOR

Yet the noble Romaine Gentlemen your aunceltors, in actions of honour, preferred the last before the first. If you be heires of their vertues, Vsurers cannot purchase that patrimonie: And therefore, great is our hope, that you will bridle meane affections, when they contemned the greatest. ROMVLVS with a weake strength, and invincible courage, first buylded this famous Citie, and of his name shee is called to this daye Roome. Numa Pompilius that succeeded him, both enlarged the boundes, and strengthened her, with manie good lawes and orders: And in processe of time, the wisdom of the Maistrates, and valiancie of her Gentlemen, made Rome, The Soueraigne of Citties, the Beautie of the earth, and Empresse of the whole world: And so to this daye had remained, had not the horrible vices of her Emperors Nero, Caligula, Dominian, Commodus, and Heliogabalus, echpsed her glorie, and polluted her people with abominations: But vertue is able to perfect more then vice hath deformed. We beseech the Gods, that on our part there may bee no default, as wee earnestly desire reformation in you: And then (no doubt) Rome shall shortlye haue her auncient honour, and you the reputation of Romulus heires.

Brute apparell
fyt for stage
players

This badge of pryde, Brauerie in apparell, is necessarie for base persons, that publicly in open Theaters, presente the personages of Emperoures, Kinges, Dukes, and such Heroycall Estates: For that they haue no other meane to performe their action. But the magnanimous Gentleman, carrieth honor in his countenance, and not countenance in his Garments.

CICERO discovered the Haughtinesse of Cesar in his fore-head.

Astiages

MA IESTRATES OF CITIES. 13

ASTIAGES, saw a Kyngly minde in **CYRVS**, although, hee were armed with a Sheepehook: man maketh the Habyt, and not Habyt a man.

Drunkennesse and **Glotionie**, are fowle maymes too **Honour**, and the greatest deformytie in a Gentleman:

Call **Alexander**, the great, to witnesse, who, after hee had conquered (almoste) all the whole Worlde, with the Swoord, conquered hym-selfe with a Wine-potte:

So that, it is a question, whether he receiued more Honour, in ouercommynge the mighty **Darius**, of Persia, or Dishonor, by beyng subdued, by the Persians Vices: If I were a Iudge, **Alexander**, should find a seueare Iudgement: for, by his valiancie, he did but conquer his ennemies, and in his drunkennesse, he slew his frendes, and hastened his owne death.

Prodigalitye, is so sharpe a vengeance, as there needeth no Lawe to chastise the Prodigall man, he doth so seuerely punish him-selfe. **Epicharidus**, the Athenian, in fixe Dayes consumed his Patrimonic, and al his lyfe after, liued a Begger.

The vengeance of Prodigalitye

Pasircus, kyng of Cyprus, first (prodigallie) spent his Treasure, afterwards, sold his Realme, and (lastly) died (miserable) in the Cittie of Amathuntus,

The prodigall **Cleops**, Kyng of Egypte, was driuen vnto such necessitie, as he was faine to liue of the dishonnest vse of his Daughters bodie.

If prodigalitye bring Kings to this exigent, who haue manie supplies, it speedilye ruineeth the richest Subiect: yea, (which is worst) their reuerencie is as vnertaine, as their vndoing is certaine: For by colour of their Rennewes, they runne in debt the triple value of theyr

E.i.

Landes,

THE MIRROR FOR

Landes. You Gentlemen of Rome, knowe this better by experience, then by my information, you feele the smart of prodigalitie; by ryot you were dryuen to mortgage your Landes, and had lost the same, and your selues, had not our liberalitie redeemed both: our louing care to preuent, that followeth after prodigalitie, which is this perillous daunger:

Men, beyng (by prodigalitye) Enemies of their owne and posterityes prosperitie: by want and Necessytie, become Enemies of their Countreys peace and welfare, I saie, feare of this mischiefe, and loue of your weldoynge, hath repurchased your Landes: receyue of vs, the Possession therof, as a Cognisance of our loue, and desyre that you maye floorysh: Keepe your Honour with your Landes, least our seuerie displeasure, be heaped vpon your vndoynge: Lette vertuous Pollicies and Documents be your studdie: see that your exercise, bee Feates of Chiuallrye: vse your handes, to the managyng of Armes, and not your Fyngers to the trippinge of Dice, a Pastyme, so villanous, that (notwithstandinge) the losse be doubtfull, the dishonour is certaine.

The dishonour of Dicing.

GOBILON, the Athenian, beyng sent Ambassadour, to make League with the Corrynthians, who, findyng the Gouvernours of Corrynth, playinge at the Dice, departed without dispatch of his busines: saying, He would not staine the Gloire of the Spartianes, in making League with Dicers. The Kyng of the Persians, sent goulden Dice to kyng Demetrius, for a reproache of his Lightnesse. Cicero, in the Senate-house, put Anthonius to silence, in sayinge, he was a Dicer: And (truely) so infamous a pastime, neither becometh

M A I E S T R A T E S O F C I T I E S. 14

besemeth the Grauitie of the Magistrate, nor Honor of a Gentleman, for that the gaine, is loaden with dishonest practises, and the losse, with vnquiet passions.

Learn by the Cōtinencie of the mightie Alexāder, & the noble Romain Scipio, to subdue carnal affection: the one, hauyng (by fortune of warre, the possession of kyng Darius Wyfe, the moste beautifull Ladie of all ASIA, he neither suffred him-selſe, to bee conquered by her beautie, nor the Quene to bee dishonoured by his victorie. The other, hauyng lyke Aduantage of the Paragon of Spayne, with the semblable vertue, vanquished his Affections.

worthye
exampls of
continencie

On the cōtrarie part, know ye, that Rome (of late) hath had more Emperours brought vnto the Sepulture, by Lecherie, then in many hundred yeares before, by the Launce. Gentlemen, my Kinsmen and Companions. I admonish you from naughtinesse, by the falles of Emperours, kynges, and Heroeall Estates: that you maye knowe, in the punishment of vice, the Goddes, neither feare nor spare, the mightiest of men. On the contrarie parte, I counsell you to goodnesse, by the Counsell of our dignitie, assuring you, by the exercise of Vertue, meaner then Gentlemen, become Emperours of Kingdomes. Wee haue no more to saye: but that the Goddes impresse in your hartes, the counsell we haue blowen into your eares, and that your Emperour Alexander, maye beholde Rome, Rome agayne. And you Gentlemen of Rome, worthye the reputation of your Noble Auncestors.

When the good Emperour, had ended his Ora-
tion: the Gentlemen, overcome with the
Princely fauour and affection of Alexander, as (also)
wounded, with the knowledge of their former lasci-
uiousnesse, discovered a great dismaie of Spirit:

In the ende, with abased Countenances, vppon
their knees, they humbly acknowledged his grati-
ous benefits: confessed their owne vnworthynesse,
and faithfullie promised, to obey his fatherly Coun-
sailes. The good Emperour, then, demaunded, yf
they would be contented, that their Debts shuld be
paide by yearely pentiones out of their Landes, and
if they woulde (sparingely) liue, accordyng vnto the
proportion of the rest: They all answered, with one
voyce: Yea (noble Emperour) els were we accursed.

The prudent Alexander, hauing by these graue
Orations, sounded the inclynations, of the three E-
states of Rome, vz. The Senators: The Gentlemen, and
the Citizyns: forsook not y aduauntage of the peoples
good dispositions, but while the Vertue of his wise
Counsellors was workyng in their hartes, he, with
the Advice of his graue Senators, deuised many
good Lawes, for the abandonyng and banishment
of Vices forth of the Citie: assuryng himselfe, that
where Discipline was wanting, the soundest coun-
sell, purged not corrupt maners: so that, to the loue
which his Affabilitie had moune, he ioyned dread,
through seuerer executions, of these profitable lawes.

Laws, Pains, and

Penalties set downe by Alexander Seuerus,
to punish Offenders against the
Weale publique.

In primis for that the Tauernes, Dicing-houses, & the Stewes,
were & shoulde be of all vices,

Tauernes
stewes and
dicing houses

and the Sanctuaries of vicious persons, he suppressed all such, as were of euill fame: sayinge, That, if
the Owners could not liue, but vpon the indoyng
of others, it were reason, they should starue, by the
necessitie of their idle bypussyng.

Item He commaunded that in the Tauernes, there
should be no other, the open Bothes, & the Censors,
might see the behauiours & conditions of people that
haunted them.

Open bothes
in Tauernes.

Item He commaunded that no Gentleman, Ro-
mayne, should resort to any of these Houses, vpon
paine, to lose the name of a Gentleman.

Gentlemen,
for bidden,
Tauernes

Item He commaunded that no fornicator, should
haue more then fower wyffes at his dinner; nor
Gentleman, or Citizen, more then three; And that
the Common people, should feede (onely) of one Dish, of
fish or flesh: sayinge that Glotony and Drunkenesse,
not (onely) consumed the wealth of the weale pu-
blique, but also the health of the people.

Gluttony
and Drunken-
nes

When the good Emperour, had ended his Ora-
tion: the Gentlemen, overcome with the
Princely fauour and affection of Alexander, as (also)
wounded, with the knowledge of their former lasci-
uiousnesse, discovered a great dismays of Spirit:.

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blique, but also, the health of the people.

Gluttony
and Drunken-
nes

A M I R O V R F O R

Limitation
of Apparell

Item: He commaunded, þ no Gentleman, Romain,
shuld haue more then three Sutes of Apparell: one,
for O: din rie dayes: one other for: festiuall tymes:
and the thyrð, for: the entertaynmet of Ambassadors:
alleadging, that all these were necessary, & what so
euer was more, was superfluous. This Lawe
was also set downe by Phillip le Bel, to reforme the
p:ide of Fraunce, and by Fardinando, King of Arra-
on, to husbandry the smal pensions of the Knightes
of the Lande, which order he hym selfe erected.

Dycers made
bond slaues

Item: He enacted, if any Gentleman Romaine,
or Citizyn come, by playing at Dice, haunting of
Cauerns, or any other vnchastitie exercise, had consum-
med his patrimoine & substance, & was indebted
more the he was able to satisfie: that the, it shuld be
lawfull for the Creditor, to take the party offending,
& to hold him as his bod: slaue, so long as the seruice
& labour of his body were thought sufficient for his
debt. Were this a lawe in England, I feare mee, at
this present, we shuld haue more Gentlemen bond-
men, then yemen truste seruantes.

Limitation
for vsurie

Item, for that vsury was the decay of a huge
nuber, he enacted, þ no vsurer, shuld take (after the
reputation of thel: money more then þ allowance,
of. iii. li. s. for a. C. a. for a yere. And þ he which
refused to deliuer his money at this rate, shuld from
thenceforth, be held vnvnder the name of a Romaine,
or to take any benefit by the whole publique: But
shuld, by þ Cehors, be dep:ed of þ name of a Citizyn,
& for euer, after shuld be named on the cryme of
Ing:atitude.

Item,

Item From hence forth, no necessitie be considered in them that consume their substance, in Dice playing, outrageous expences or lechery: who so euer lendeth to them, let it be at his peril & without hope of remedie. But vnto him whom peruerse fortune, long sicknesse, seruice, frendship, theues, or oppressors haue brought vnto pouertie: If any such come vnto the Mayor of the Citie, and declare his necessitie, and whereof it proceeded, vpon the oath of one Seator, and two honest Comoners, that his words are true, the Mayor shall assigne one rich man of the Citie to lend him a portion of money, taking assurance for the payment thereof, for the gayne before limited.

Money lent to
dice players
without hope
to be reco-
uered.

Assignment
of Creditors
for distressed
persones.

Item He enacted, that if any Citizen of Rome, were found idle, by the space of one whole day, vnlesse vpon a festiuall Day, hauing no lawfull nor approued excuse: that then, he should be first whipped, and after, by the Conseruators, he should be set to the trade that he was of, and for euery day, that he was openly seene, to be idle, the person, to whom he was committed, for one month, should set him to what labour he pleased, as his slave or bond-man, giuing him meat and drinke, onely.

Idle persons
set a worke.

For Corrup-
tion of vicuals

Item He commaunded, that the Controll-ers of the Markettes, should be honest men, and not couetous: and (for the auoyding of the Infection) that they should diligently forsee, that the Vicualles, which were sold, should be sweete and wholesome for to be eaten.

Item.

Item.

A MIROVR FOR

Late suppers,

¶ Item: To auoide cause of Infection, and horrible Diseases, he prohibited Ingurgitations, Bankets, late Suppers and longe.

May some occupations.

¶ Item: He commaunded, that men of corrupt and noplome Occupations, should dwel out of the common passage of the people: And that the streetes of the Cities, should be kepte very cleanty and sweete.

Sweete keeping of baynes

¶ Item, He commaunded that the Baynes, by discrete keepers, should be kept very neate and sweet, that neither the eye nor Nose, should find any thyng vnpleasent or noplome. By which cleantinesse, Rome was preserued from sundry sickneses, which (vndoubtedly) do grow of corrupt exhalations, venting out of mennes bodies.

Hospitals for poore people,

¶ Item, Of his own charge, he builded three Hospitalles, to relieue the Aged, blind, decreaped, and other poore people, infected wth vncureable Diseases

Cure for diseased Vagabonds,

¶ Item: He commaunded, that vnto a number of yong diseased vagabonds, there should be ministred, a thin Diet, an excessiue labor, and cleanty lodging: saying that the contrarie, were the causes of their Diseases, and, therefore, this the most hopefull Medicine, to recouer their health.

Prouision of Corne,

¶ Item: He commaunded, that all the Foxgaitures which were leuted, vpon the Gaddes of Offenders against the Lawe, should be employed vpon Corne for the prouision of the poore.

¶ Item

MAIESTRATES OF CITTIES. 17

Item: He commaunded, that no man should weare in his Apparayle, no maner of Stuffe, other then was made within the Cittie of Rome.

A lawefor
The setting of
Poore people
a worke.

The lyke Statute was established in all the Cyties of Italye: by meanes wherof, Rome and all the other Cyties were floored of good Workemen, and the poore people, no excuse for Idlenes.

Item: He commaunded, that in vittailing and Bordel-houles, the Doores should not be open from the Sun-setting vntyll the Sun-rising: by which Pollicie, the Conseruators knewe, what manner of people repayed vnto them.

Vittayling
and bordell-
houfes

Item: Every Cittizyn, was straightly forbidden, to eate or drinke in any Tauerne, or vittayling house: whiche Houses, were (only) tollerated, for the intertainment of Straungers, which repayed vnto the Cytie about lawfull businesse,

Cyttizyns for
bydden.
Tavernes.

Item: He commaunded, that all corrupt and deceitfull Bargayners, should bee punished with the whyp, as Thieues, that stole priuylie, without any violence: affyrming, that it was but a fantasie, and a laughynge-matter, to make a difference, betwene stealing and deceitfull bargayninge. But, were this a Lawe with vs, we shuld haue more weeping in London, then laughynge in thre of the greatest Shiers of Englande.

Corrupt and
deceatfull
Bargayners.
punished as
Petty theaues

Item: He commaunded: that if any haue conditioned person, by the presumption of welth, should

vnequall
comparyson

f.i.

make

A MIRROR FOR T231AM

make any fauourie comparison with any Gentlemā Romayne: immediatly, the said Franklyn, should become the Gentlemans Bondslauē, with whome he compared, vntil the said Franklyn, had made the Gentleman his superiour, as well in wealth, as dignitie: And this Lawe hindered many quarrells, which (other wise) would haue growen, of vnequall comparisons.

Playes abolished

Item: He commaunded, that the Playes, called Florales and Luberales, and the beastly Ceremonies of Isis, should be banished and abolished, as the most venymous Allectiues and styrrers of Lecherie,

Diceplayers.

Item: He ordayned, if any man were founde playing at the Dice, he should be taken, for a frantick, or a natural foole, which could not gouerne himselfe: and his gooddes and lande, should be committed to sage and discreete Gouvernours, vntill he were againe enabled by the Senate.

Vnto these Lawes, vvas added this Confirmation.

¶ These Lawes, decreed by the Senate, enacted by the people, confirmed by the imperiall Maiestie, be (for euer) established: and (neuer) by anye other Lawe, Custome or Ordinance, be abolished. And who, that with violence, resisteth against them, let him be taken for a Rebelle and Ennemie vnto the Weale publique.

¶ Of the

Of the great VVisdome of

ALEXANDER, in electyng of Graue
Counsellers, Officers, and Admy-
nistrators of Iustice.

THE Noble and vertuous Emperoure
(prudently) forsaue, that the se-
uerest lawes, were (without ex-
ecution) but like vnto painted fire, which giueth no
heat: or (as the Philosopher, Cleanthes sayth:) A yke
vnto Cobwebs, through which, the Hornets breake
when the small Flies are intangled. And (truely)
without due Administration, law is like to a Back-
sword, the edge wherof, smiteth the poore, and the
blunt backe, the higher powers. But to auoyd this
partialitie: the good Alexander, made choyce of such
worthy Maiestrates, as (playnly) refuted this Ma-
xime of Aristotle.

Amor et odium, et proprium commodum,

Semper facient Iudices, non cognoscere verum.

In Englysh thus:

Love, Hate, and priuate gayne,

From vpright trueth, the Iudge doth allwayes kraine

None of these Affections, could (neither) blinde
their eyes, nor binde their handes: They measured
Iustice, neither by the mightinesse nor meauenesse
of the Person, but by the equitie of the cause: and it
stode them in hande, to deale thus vprightly: for if
any corruption were founde in their Iudgements,
the Emperour himselte, did (seuere) Iustice vppon
the vniust Maiestrate, that abused his Auctorytie,

21 AMIROVR FOR
and intured the people: let Vetriconius Turinus, be ex-
ample, for many.

This Turinus, was a man of much Honour, great
learning and wisdom: and for many vertues, was
of the Emperour (singularly) fauoured: but, abusing
the Emperour and his own good fortune, vnder co-
lour of often and familiar conference wth Alexander,
he receiued many Brybes to obtaine great lutes, a-
boue his power to compasse: whiche beyng proued
agaynst him, the Emperours sentence was: That
in the Market place, he should bee bownde vnto a
Stake, and with a Smoake of greene Stiches and
wette Stubble, should be smothered to death: And
duryng the tyme of his Execution, he commaunded
a Beadell to crye:

With Fume let him die, that Fumes hath sould.

Thus, no known Offender, escaped the venge-
ance of his leuerytie: and (which won him as much
loue, as his Justice did feare,) he encouraged & com-
forted good & vertuous men, with many great gifts
and fauours.

C That Rome might prosper, by the confusion of
vice: first, he ordayned (accordyng to the counsell of
PLATO,) three-score graue persons, which were
named, CONSERVATORS of the W^{al}le-
publique: for every Tribe had two: Roome beyng
deuided into thirtie Tribes: whose Office, was
(chiefly) to see, that the children of the Romaines, were
well brought vp and instructed, accordyng vnto the
capacities of their wits, from the Age of .vii. yeres,
vnto .xvi. yeaeres: & that, in their Pastimes, playes
and recreations, were nothyng dishonest.

Conseruators
and their
chardge.

Education
of children.

¶ Item,

Item: That the Maidens, during the said Age, were brought up in shamesfastnes, humblenes, and the exercise of Huswifery: and that they should not be seene forth of their Fathers-houses, but (only) in the Temples.

Education of
maydens

Item: their charge was, to controule Hobseholders of every degree, if there were founde any excesse in their fare, or cost upon their owne, or their Wyues Apparayle, more then by the Lawes, was limited: or if they were Company-keepers with any riotous or dishonest person.

Riotous
householders

Item: Twice by the weeke they were bound to make Presentment of the Disorders whiche they found, unto the Prouost of the Cittie, reseruing vnto them-selues, the education of the Children: which they-them-selues reformed, by giuing of sharpe Admonition vnto their Parentes.

Presentation,
twice by the
weeke.

The Prouost punished suche, as offended in other Articles, against the Statutes and Ordinances, in suche cases provided.

Prouost of al
the Cittie.

Item: The Emperour augmented the number of Pretors and Questors, but appointed euery one a severall Charge.

Pretors and
Questors

Item: He made choyce, of very honest men to be Purueiours for grappe, but changed them euery yere, lest continuance corrupted their consciences.

Purueiours of
grappe

A MIROVR FOR

¶ Item: He appointed Baylyffes, Receiuers, Surueiours, and such like Officers, but fauoured them not, saying: they were necessarie euils: And if they haustilie gathered much riches, he would take away al that they had. Telling them. Let it suffice, that you haue taken so long pleasure with my goodes: and beware that you take not from other men vniustly, least I be more angrie with you.

Censors, and
their office.

¶ Item: To be Judges of these Officers, as also of the behauiours of all the people of Rome, sauing the common people, were they Senatores, Gentlemen or Citizens. This prudent Emperour appointed two of his prync Counsell, worthy and graue Senators, to be Censors in Rome, whose names were Fabius Sabinus, and Catilius Seuerus. The office of the Censors, were to note the manners of euery person, aboue the degree of the common people.

So that if a Knight, Judge, or Senator, did any thing vnseeming the Honour of their Degree, their charge was, to degrade hym of his office, or Dignitie. In whiche, they vsed suche rigour, as no man might (lawfully) boast of fauor. In so much, as the Emperours Pallace was not free from their iurisdiction. For they meeting with Aurelius Philippus, (who was sometime the Emperours Schoolmaster, and after wrote his life) riding in a Chariot, looking to be saluted as a Senatour, they forthwith executed an auncient law vpon the said Philippus: which was, that no bond-man, although hee were manumitted, should be a Senatour: And at that time, it was lawfull for no person vnder the degree of a Senatour

tour to ride in a Chariot. Philippus was sometime a
 bond-man, and therefore, for breach of this law, the
 Censors sent him first to prison, and after, forbad him
 to come to the Emperors pallace, but (onely) a foot,
 and his copped Cappe upon his head: which fashio
 was onely used of them that were enfranchised.
 Some of the Noble-men thought, the Censors dealt
 verie sharplie with Philippus, considering, that hee
 was a man of much honestie, and great learning,
 and so certefied the Emperour. But the Emperour
 approved their Justice, and answered:

If the common wealth may euermore haue such offi-
 cers, in short space, there shall be found in Roome more
 men worthie to be Emperours, than I (at my first com-
 ming) found good Senators.

And undoubtedly, where the offences of the best
 are neuer pardoned, the worst will amend for feare
 of extreme vengeance. The proove appeareth in A-
 lexanders gouernment: who (by the seuerer executio
 of the lawes, so bridleed the dispositions of the wic-
 ked, that it may be saide, they grew to be vertuous
 rather by custome, then good inclination. Yea, it is
 written, that his seueritie thus much prosited: As
 leading a great armie against Artaxerxes, the Persi-
 ans, said, he had brought an armie of Senatours, ra-
 ther than of Soldiours, when at his comming to
 Empire, the Senatours (manie of them) were as
 dissolute as common Soldiours. And one especiall
 cautie hee used in the searche of mens behauiours,
 hee woulde manye tymes in disguised habyte,
 with diuers others by hym especiall ye elected,

A wise polli-
 cie of Alex-
 ander.

A MIROVR FOR

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 rather by custome, then good inclination. Yea, it is
 written, that his seueritie thus much profited: As
 leading a great armie against Artaxerxes, the Persi-
 ans, said, he had brought an armie of Senators, ra-
 ther than of Soldiours, when at his coming to the
 Empire, the Senators (manie of them) were as
 dissolute as common Soldiours. And one especiall
 cautie hee vsed in the searche of mens behauiours,
 hee woulde manie tymes in disguised habyte,
 with diuers others by hym especiall ye elected,
 take

A wise polli-
 cie of Alex-
 ander.

take vpon him the Office of the Censors: and in euery corner, he had (secretly) suche faythfull Explozers, as mens proper Houses, were no Couerts for naughtie practises, nor the Senat-house, for partial Iudgements. And (by this Pollycie) he discouered many naughtie matters, besides comon trespasses: as the Treason of Oniaius, the false accusation of Geminus, by his Lybertines, or Copholders: as (also) of the mortall mallice of Duillius and Gotta, towards the said Geminus. In so much, as the people, seying nothyng that was euyl, could escape his vengeaunce, all men indeuored to do well, to purchase his fauour.

King Henry
the seuenth,
Imitator of
Alexanders
gouernment.

THE (most Noble and prudent) kynge, kynge HENRY, the seuenth, the Quenes (most excellent Maiesties Graundfather, and Roote of Englandes happynesse, was a true imitator, of this (most worthy) Emperours gouernment: by whose singular wisdom, England, which at the beginning of his Raigne: was a deformed, and decreped Commonwealth, by reason of the longe tyme of the Cypl-warres which durynge syr. Kinges Raignes made barrayne feildes, and farr Churche-yardes) before his death, repossessed her Auncient Vertues, renown and prosperitie. So that it is a questiō, whether this famous Realm is more bound to eternize his glorious Memorie, in regarde of his Prowesse, or Pollycie: when by the one, he planted Peace in her bowelles, and by the other, banished warre from the Territories. He knew, that to reforme so disordered an estate, it was more needefull to execute, then to make Lawes: and (therfore) not trustyng the

MAIESTRATES OF CITTIES. 21

the corruption of common Informers, who, for lucre
or gain, attemptyng many veracions against poore
men, and for feare, seeke to please the ritch: he com-
mitted the execution of the Penall Lawes, to the
charge of these two worthie Counsellers, sir Richard
Empson, knight, and Richarde Dudley, Esquier: who
so seuerely chastened the rich and great Offenders,
as they stirred the inconstant comunaltie, after the
death of the vertuous Henrie the seventh, to seeke
their lyues: who had their willes, for feare of Com-
motion, thease two worthie Maiestrates weare
beheaded: And (vndoubtedly) their deathes, is a te-
stimonie of as great vertue, as their liues, a Monu-
ment of Justice: for the multitude, are the mortall E-
nemies of their owne welfare, and frendes and fol-
lowers of their owne confusion. One said to An-
tisthenes: The people speaketh much good of you:
Why? saide he: what hurt haue I done? As who
should say: they seldome praise, but suche as do euil:
No Ethnike, deserued to lyue, better then Socrates,
yet the people would haue hym dead. The Atheni-
ans had a Lawe, euerie yeare, by the most voyces
of the people, for ten yeares, to banyshe two of their
principall Maiestrates: On a tyme, a poore man,
came with a white Paper in his hande to Aristides,
the iust, and willed him to write: Banish Aristides.
Why? (quoth he:) dost thou know Aristides? No:
(quoth the other:) Hath Aristides done thee or any of
thy frendes, hurte? Neither (quoth he) but I wyll
haue Aristides banished. The worthy Scipio was
banished by the people, whome he oft had saued.
I omitt Themistocles, Photion, & many mo, whome

Inclination
of Common
Informers

The lewde
affections,
of Common
people.

A MIROVR FOR

Histories record, to shewe the light Judgementes of
Comons, Danté, the Italian Poet, saith truely of
them: it is seldome seene, that the people crye not:

Viva la mia morte, innoia la mia vita: Let liue my
death: let die my lyfe: Yea, those great estates, that
seek to please the people, for the most parte, haue had
the endes of enemies to their Countrey.

When Cicero sawe that Caesar was in hye fauour
with the people of Rome, he cryed out: It is great
pitie, that the affabilitie of Cesar, should be the ouer-
throw of the Weale-publique. And (truely) Cicero,
prophessed rightly: for, by their fauour, Cesar iudged
the Judgementes of the Senate, and sent the good
and graue Cato to Prison, whose vertues, obtay-
ned reuerence of the worst liuers.

But (notwithstandyng) the Afflictions of the mul-
titude, coueiteth their owne vndoynges, yet their
incouragement proceedeth of greater capacities:
And (therefore) the redy way to keepe them in awe,
is (seuerely) to punysh their Chief-taynes,

In all tumultes, it is (evidently) seene, that if their
Captaynes yelde, they runne away: if their Incou-
ragers be dismayde, they sing, Peccauit: do Justice
vpon the great Offenders, and the meaner wyll
sone amend: Alexander (in his Gouvernement) found
it true: who, in the Execution of the Lawes, made
no difference of persons: saue, that, to the inferiour
people, he was (euermore) most mercifull.

FINIS.

AN ADDITION: OR
TOVCHSTONE

for the Time: expofyng the dain

gerous Mifchiefes, that the Dicynge Howles (cōmonly
called) Ordinarie Tables, and other (like) Sanc-
tuaries of Iniquitie, do dayly breede:

Within the Bowvelles of the

famous - CITIE of LONDON.

By George Whetstones, Gent.



G.ii.

Imprinted at London, by
Richarde Iones.

The dangerous Mischiefes,

that the DICING-HOUSES, and other

lyke Sanctuaries of iniquitie, do breede

in the Cittie of LONDON.

IT is sufficiently expressed, that, by the vertue, diligence, and wisdom, of the right Noble Emperour, Alexander : Rome, (the most ouglye, and monstrous Common-wealth of the world, so was she deformed, with horrible & beastly vices, fostered by Heliogabalus, & other wicked Emperours,) was brought vnto such perfection, as she might (lawfullie) bee intituled: The Temple of the Goddes: The Fowntayne of Vertue, and, The Nurce of Learnynge: so free was the Exercise of Pietie, Justice, Temperance, and all other Deuine, Morall, and Heroicall vertues. In curynge of which dangerous Infirmities of the Common-wealth, Alexander perfourmed the Offices of a skilfull Physitian and Surgion: he did not (ignorantly) apply Medicine, to the outwarde sore, vntyll he had searched the inward cause: He founde, the outwarde woundes of the weale publique, was Pride, Prodigalitye, Dicinge, Drunkennesse, Lecherie, Usurie, Couetousnes, &c. The suppressing of which Passions, consisted not (alone) in chastisement of Offenders: He (prudently) foresawe, that y Boatman lost much labor, that with a Dish, stode all day lading out of water, when a quarter of an howeres worke, wold

The woundes
of a Comon
wealth

mende the breache of his Boate, whiche was the
 cause, although the water were the annoyance: he
 knew that every Ryuer had a Spynge, every Dis-
 ease, a sturrying Humour, and every vice, a special
 succour: Reason instructed him, that no Thiefe wold
 be so bould, as to rob by the hye waye, if he had no
 Couert to shrowd hym: If there were no Brothell
 Houses, Shame wold delay Lechery. But for Ta-
 uerns and tipling Bothes, Drunkardes should be
 sober against their wills: But for Ordinarie tables,
 Diccers should (many times) be idle, or better occu-
 pyed, then in swearyng and consuming their Patri-
 monie: These causes beyng stopped, the vicious
 (perforce) must change their course. And therefore, the
 good Emperour, as the best remedie for the mala-
 dies of the Comon-wealth, purged Rome, of these
 Sanctuaries of lewd and dishonest persons, as the
 perfect meane to cure their vile and naughtie dispo-
 sitions. And (certaynly) his Government, Order,
 and Discipline, may be, A Myrrour for Magistrates
 of all Citties: who are lyke to finde no lacke of Dis-
 orders, to exercise his Politique Orders: for, in the
 heart of the best gouerned Citties, Vice hath her
 Mansion, as a Coxe in the inward substance of the
 lowndest Quince. But, leauyng the Discouerie of
 the Infymities of forreigne Citties, London, the
 Capitoll Cittie of Englande (and at this day, the Pa-
 ragon of Christendome,) proudly beareth many a
 dangerous Infymptie, whiche, the wisdom of
 the Magistrates, must (speedely) heale, or els, ouer-
 shortly, the wickednesse of her people, wyl abate
 her prosperitie.

A Remembrance, of the

Disordered State of the Common-
wealth, at the Queenes Maiesties
commynge to the Crowne.

TH E Queenes most
Excellent Maiestie, (even our Grati-
ous Queene Elizabeth) by Gods grace
Soueraigne Ladye of this famous
Cittie, and of Englande, Fraunce and Irelande (in
aduauntage), sole Princesse of Peace, and second to
no annointed kyng, in the exercise of all the Capitol
Vertues: let Gods blessinges bee my Testimonie,
(plentifullie) heaped vpon her Excellencie, and (for her
Holinesse sake) vpon her true Subiectes, and many
a hungrye Nation, besides: Her sacred Maiestie,
(I saye) at suche time, as she was crowned with
the Soueraigntie of these Realmes, fownd ENG-
LANDE, and (speciallie) LONDON, farre out
of temper, (besides Cardinall Superstition) with
earnall and vnchaste infections of Rome, as (also)
puffed or half poysoned, with the pryde of Spayne.
For the saluyng of which, and all other Infirmy-
ties, of the Common-wealth, her Godly wilddome,
with the Publique assent of her Subiectes, esta-
blished many Medicinable Lawes, whereby, all
the pryncipall Maladies of the Common-wealth, might
receiue perfect cure, if the Denall Lawes were as
seuerely punished, as they be (prudently) established.
But

Negligence
in Maiestrates
causeth
bouldenes in
euill lyuers.

But, the (oney) lacke of this Admystration is, the Maiestrate punisheth, but what is presented, and the Iniured (in many wronges) sustayne their losses without complaynt: Thus, lacke of diligence, bouldneth the euill lyuers to offende, with Walters about their neckes.

Inuaying
against stage
playes.

The godly Diuines, in publique Sermons, and others, in printed Booke, haue (of late) very sharply inuayed against Stage playes (vnproperly called, Tragedies, Comedies, and Moralles,) as the Spynge of many vices, and the stumbleng-blockes of Godlynesse and Vertue: Cruely, the vse of them vpon the Saboth day, and the abuse of them at all times, with scurlytie and vnchaste coueiance, ministred matter sufficient for them to blame, and the Maiestrate to reforme.

Playinge at
dice invented
by the deuill

But, there are in the Bowels of this famous Citie, farre more dangerous Playes, and little reprehended: that wicked Playes of the Dice, first inuented by the Deuyll (as Cornelius Agrippa, wyrteth,) and frequented by vnhappy men: The detestable Route, vpon which, a thousand villanies growe.

Ordinarie
Tables
Nurces of
Iniquitie

The Nurces of theale (worse then Heathnysh) Hellish exercise, are Places (called) Ordinarie tables: Of which, there are, in London, more in number, to honor the Deuyll, then Churches to serue the liuing God: neither are they (improperly) named: for, in verye trueth, they are the Ordinarie Intertayners of naughtie persons, and the Sinckes of all abhominacion. But some wyll holde it conuenient, that I make a Difference of Ordinarie Tables, because, of the ciuill vsage & Orders of some of the keepers,

Difference of
ordinarie
Tables

as

as in respect of the Honourable and worshipfull repa-
payre vnto them. In very trueth, in some of these
places, Vice is so modestly quallyfied, as they may
well be called: tollerable euylles. And (although)
Socytie be a pleasing Affection, I hope, (as occasi-
on will fall out) to satisfie the better sorte of Gentle-
men, that, the refraynyng of the best of these badde
Houses, wyll be more profitable, Honorable & plea-
sant, then the frequentyng of them.

The namyng of the ciuiller sort, of these Houses, I
omyt: because, in reportyng of the viler sort, and hor-
rible vices that they foster, is farre from my intent:
either in name, or figure, to discipher any persō that
keepeth them, or eny Guest that haunteth them: pro-
testyng before God and man, that my labour sear-
cheth the roote of this fowle ymposstume, which bo-
miteth a number of seuerall filthy coloured Corrup-
tions: onely, to admonish the greener sort of Gentle-
men, who are aptest to receiue the Infection, and to
laye before the Magistrate, the Boyson of thease
Ulcers: to whose wildomes, the cure belōgeth: and
in this trauell, I suppose, I deserue wel of the worst
liuers, in that I (Icharitably) admonish them, to re-
forme the euylles, that Time may discover, by their
vndoing: And so to my purpose,

This worke
is not made
particularly
to blame any
person, but
generally to
blaspheme abuse.

There are within the Sub-

bybes of London, diuers worthe Houses, cal-
led, Innes of the Court and of the Chaūcerie: Places,
where the Lawes of this Realme, are (publiquely)
read, studied and learned: Places, of much Honour,

Innes of the
Court, places
of much
reuerence.

H. i.

and

and Reputation, as well, in respect of the Reuerent-
 nesse of the Personages, whiche gouerne them, as
 (also) for the exercise of the Lawes) whiche are the
 strength and Ornamentes of euery wel gouerned
 Citie-wealth, euery Gentleman, and (almost)
 Peman of Abilitie, sendeth the ripest witted of his
 Children, vnto some one of these Houses, to study
 the common Lawes of Englande. And (truely)
 the good Father, in this charge, dischargeth the loue
 of a Father towarde his Sonne, and the duetie of
 a frende, towarde his Countrey: for by such as
 are learned in the Lawes (if they abuse not their
 knowledg) besides an especial benefit & reputati-
 on, which they (priuatly reape) vnto them-selues, the
 Ignorance of their Neighbours where they dwell,
 is (profitably) instructed: But, by reason of Dicyn-
 g-houses, and other Alehouses too vnchristianesse, the
 good Father, which is at charge, to make his Sonne
 a Lawier, to do his Countrey seruice, throughe the
 loosenesse of the Sonne (many times) spendeth his
 money to the vndowynge of his posteritie.

dicyn g houses
 ar a hinderāce
 to the studie
 of the lawe

One scabbed
 sheepe in-
 fecketh a hole
 focke

Dye ing
 houses, causes
 of pride

The swarme of Vnchristes, whiche lyue vpon
 Shiffes, in, and within the Cittie of London (first
 seaze vpon these Ponglynges: by their lewde con-
 uersation, they drawe them from Studdie, and doe
 acquaint them with these wicked Ordinaries:

Where the Brauerie of the Companie, the glee
 and Reuell that they keepe, were able to brynge a
 stayde man vnto their Societie, but are sure to in-
 chaunt a light yongman, which cometh (cawoly) out
 of y courey. What foloweth? Pride (straight wayes)
 infecteth him with desire to be as braue as the best:

well,

Well: if he haue liuyng, either in possession or possy-
bilitie, he shall finde sweete Baite to choake him.

Moste of these wicked places, norish thre Guestes
that will soundly bowrd this vnerperienced yonge
Gentleman, and of his abylytie wyl maintain them
selues. These be the names of their facultie.

Three dange-
rous gwestes
belonging to
ordinarie
tables

The braue Shifter: the Bawde, and the Broaker.

The braue Companion, who in Apparayle, coun-
tenaunce, and bouldnes, wyl cheacke-mate with
men of right good worshyp, and lyuing, when he
(perhaps) in a Greene Thychet getteth a Masked
face, a Bystoll, and a Whypcorde, and hath Inheri-
taunce in the Ile of Snatch: Aduentureth to Cape
Gripe: I know not by what conning shiftes. But
if I did, I thinke it necessary to conceale them, least
the instruction wold proue more hurtful to the euill
inclined, then the Admonition, profitable, to the wel
disposed: But this, I am assured, and many a Gen-
tlemans vndoing, witneseth as much: that these
expert Shifters, by false Dice, slipperie castynge,
or some other nice Sleight: althoughe all the
Daye, they dallie with yonge Nouices. as a
Catte doeth with a Mouse: yet, before Bedde
tyme, they wyl make their Purles as emptie
of Money, as the Catte the Mouses headde of
Braynes.

Description
of braue
shyfters

Braue shiff-
ters lyue vp
on the cose-
nage of play

If a man had none other flie suckynge of hym, he
should finde, a fewe of Ordinarie Dinners would
suppe a greate deale of Substaunce. But, as
a flayne Carckase, in an open fiede, is a Pray

pray, for many kyndes of vermyyn. Euen so, a plaine minded man bling these deceitful houses, is an assured praye for al sortes of hysters.

The man that is inticed to be a Dicer, of his owne accorde wil be a Hozemaster: But (say you) if he haue not acquaintance, the banishment of the Stewes wyl kepe hym chaste. But say as the Prouerbe is, Monie will hyre a guide to go to the Deuile: And (certes) as dailie gheasts at ordinarie Tabls, a man shal fynde neate Bawdes, that onely lyue bypon the brocage of loue, fellowes that wyl procure acquaintance for a dumbe man. These be no bashful Besogniers, but such as glory in their facultie. Their comon talke shal be Ribaldry, and matter of their profession. To conclude, he that hath aduantage, slyly bloweth a meeting of faire women into my pong maisters eares: His company neddeth not to be desired. Incontinent desire maketh him wood of their societie. Gods blood, lets goe, straight he cryeth, and with more haste, then good speede, they goe to some blind brothel-house wher (peraduerture) for a Bottle or two of wyne, the embracement of a paynted Harlot, and the French Dockes for a reckoning, the Purlic payeth fortie shillings, and yet my braue Besognier hath a more costly reckoning to geue hym. He wyl accompanie him familiarly vp and downe the Citie, and in the ende wyl come vnto a Mercers or a Gold-smithes Shop, with whome he had before set his matche, he wyl cheape, Veluet, Satten, Jewels, or what hym lyketh, and tender his owne & companions credit for payment: He wyl with so bould a countenance aske this frendshyp of the Gentleman,

Brokers of
Bawdry.
haunters of
Dycing houses.

Coffonage of
Bawdes.

Gentleman, as the other shalbe to seeke of excuse to denie him: Well, although the penworthes of the one, be not verie good, the payment of the other, is sure to be currant: thus, by vn-satiableness, wherof, Dicing Houses are the fountaynes, the welthiest of our yong Gentlemen, are soone learned to synge.

Diues eram dudum, sed tria, me fecerunt nudum,
Alia, vina, venus, tribus his, sum factus egenus.

I wealthie was of late, though naked now you see:
Three things haue chaunged mine estate. Dice, Wine,
(and Lecherie.

But (without doubt) the infection of these Tabling Houses, is so pleasant, that a man which hath lost all his money, by the exercise of them, enen, in the place of his vndoing, he wyll (moneylese) be an idle looker on, of other mens vnthriftinesse.

Then seazeth the third of these Cheastes vpon this needie Gentleman, which is: The Broaker: who is (either) an olde Bankrupt Citizyn: or som smoothe condicioned vnthriftie Gentleman, farre in debte: some one of these wyll help him to credit, with some of their Creditors, wth a single protestation of mere courtesie: But (by your fauour) vpon this double bzance: the Citizyn Broaker, after deduction for his owne paynes, consideration for the time giuen, and losse in selling of the wares considered: wyll bring him .L. pounds, currant money, for a .C. pounds good debt: The Gentleman Broaker, will deale more Caualiero-like: he will be bounde with hym for a .C. pounds, sharynge the Money betwene them, not without solempne protestation, faithfully

Brokers for
mony and
their Cossomage.

A MIROVR FOR

to discharge his owne fiftie poundes, and (if neede be) the whole hundred poundes: Assurance (trust mee) as good as a Statute Staple, and a measure of his foote, as sure as eyther. But, let all this mischief go: here is want supplied, whiche breaketh Blasen walles: and Honey receyued, whiche betrayeth kynges, blindeth Judges, and iudgeth Justice: and for the same, but Incke, Ware and Parchement, deliuered: Mary (sir) a merke exchange: a mery Exchange (in deed) if a man shuld (alwayes) be so busied in receiuyng, as there might be no leasure forwonde for repayment: But (vnhappy young Gentleman, what so thou bee that art thus matched: thoughe thy coueitous loue of Honey is (lightly) suche, as thou haddest rather become Debter for fortie poundes, then to spare fortie shyllynges out of thy own Purse: yet learn this Lesson (as a sound Counsel:) that thou weart better giue one of these Franions, ten poundes, then to be bound for fiftene: for, what so remaineth, thou sauest, when all that thou venturst, thou loolest: and be thou sure, though thou wilt finde no leasure to satisfie thy couenaunt, thy Creditor wyll worke thee an Arrest, that shall giue thee little ease, and lesse Liberty, vntyll he be fully contented & paid. But al in vaine, Medicine is applied to vncurable Maladies: as smallie awayleth good Counsell giuen vnto the Prodigall.

A good lesson
for younge
Gentlemen.

Prodigalitye
a passion vncurable.

Lib. de
liberalit

Prodigalitye & Coueitousnesse, are two extreame Passions, and as violent are their cures: Begerie, is the ende of Prodigalitye, & Death, of Coueitousnesse:

Yet, as Iouius Pontanus saith, the Coueitous man is the worst of both: for he doth no man (not so much as himself) good wth his goods: when the Prodigall, by
the

the vndoing of himself, in richeth many. Thus, what may be best said of Prodigalyte, concludeth an vndoing of him-self & posteritye. The famous Lawier Vlpianus saith: the prodigal man, neither obserueth time, nor maketh end of riot, vntil riot hath, both consumed him & his Patrimony. The sage Solō, made a law, to defame prodigal men. The Areopagites, and criminal Judges of Athens, punished prodigall mē, as idle, bagrant & vnprofitable mē. The .x. Gouernors of Rome, made a law, y^e prodigal mē, should neither haue y^e gouernēt nor dispositiō of their own goods: but vnto him shuld be giue a Curator, by y^e appointmēt of y^e Judge. By the cōmaūdemēt of Q. Pompeius, Pretor, Q. Fabius, y^e Son of Q. Fabius, the great (surnamed) Allobrogique, for y^e riotous dispensing of his Patrimonie, was indited by this law, & cōmitted vnto y^e gouernment of a Tutor. Were this law executed in England, we shuld haue more Wardes, of .xxv then .xv. yeares of Age. The Gretians, had a law, y^e whosoener had vnchristly consumed his patrimony, shuld not be buried in y^e sepulchre of his Ancestors, for y^e he was held vnworthie the Honor of his Ancestors, y^e dishonoreth himselfe, & robbeth his posteritye. The ancient, graue & politique Cōmō-wealth mē, thus seuerely chastned Prodigalyte: though prodigal men had no care of thē-selues, they tendered the posteritye of their posteritye: they (like vnto careful Philitions, that prouide preseruatiues because the infection of the Plague is dangerous) sought y^e meanes, y^e Prodigalyte might not be noryshed: fore-seeyng that prodigall men, neyther reuerenced good Counsayle, nor feared Discipline.

Vale. Max. li
3. Cha. 5.

A MIROVR FOR

And (surely) it is a worke of greater Justice, merctfullie, to find a way to preserue men from offending then (seuerely) to punish euery offence.

Suppressse these vnchristie Houses, and you shall keepe many a mans Landes from sellpng, many a mans neck from the Halter, & the Cōmon-wealth, (perhaps) from a more daungerous mischiefe.

I haue (but yet) begun, to anatomize the Head, of this villanous Sanctuarie of Iniquitie, a heape of euilles followe. The deceit of Dice, the charge of Lecherie, Cosonage and Brocage, is all that I haue yet layde vpon our vnhappy Gentleman:

These (onely) pray vpon Gould, Siluer, and suche light carraidge. These be but suckyng flies, the biting Scorpions come after. A Wyde that hath but one feather limed, by struiuing, fetreth her whole body: Euen-so, the vnfortunate Gentleman, thrust behinde the hande, by the hazard of Dice, through a vaine hope, to redēme himselfe, followeth his mischiefe, to the spendynge of the last payment of his Lande, And to helpe him forwarde, some one Spie or Pettifogger of the Lawe (the reuerence done vnto the Law and good Lawiers reuerenced,) I may iustly saye, the Scum of all villanie, is (euer-moze) sneakyng in these Ordinarie Houses: This notable Companion, keepeth an Alphabet, of all the rich Gentlemens names, that frequenteth the Ordinaries: his eyes are settled vpon their dispositions, and his exercise is, dayly, to search the Rolles, and the Office of the Statutes, to learn what Recognizances, Morguages and Statutes do charge their Landes: This is the most pernicious Broaker, the other

A Pettifogger
a most daun-
gerous bro-
ker.

Exercyse of
ordinarie
Table pety-
foggers.

other helped the needie gentleman to money at fiftie in the hundzed losse, but he helpeth him to sell free land at fiue yerres purchase.

I must here digresse from the prodigalitie of the gentleman, vnto the couetousnesse and vsurie, I can not properly say of the Citizen; although he dwelleth in y^e Citie: for the true Citizen (where of London hath plentie) liueth vpon his trade, be he an aduenturer abroade, or a mecanicall craftsman at home. But these shames of good Citizens tradeth but to a dycing house, or at the furthest trauaileth to a bowling alley, and with ease & safetie getteth wealth as fast as the other Doe with great hazard and trauell. They come not to play the vnthrifts, but to pray vpon vnthrifts: and yet for companie, and to auoide suspicion, they wil sometime play the good fellowes. All the rest are but instruments for these danngers catchers. These neede not too greedily seeke for purchases, the necessitie of the gentlemen maketh them faire offers: and their spies, the petifogger and others giueth them knowledge where there is sound Dealing. Among them there is such deceit coloured with such cleanly shifts, as many gentlemen are for a trifle shifted out of their liuings without hope of remedie. The extremitie of these mens Dealings hath beene and is so cruell, as there is a natural malice generally im- pressed in the hearts of the gentlemen of England towards the citizens of London, insomuch as if they odiously name a man, they forthwith call him A trimme merchaunt. In like despight the

Couetous Ci-
tizens hunt
ordinarie ta-
bles to vndoe
Gentlemen.

The extreme
dealing of co-
uetous Citi-
zens haue set-
led a deadly
enue be-
tweene Gen-
tlemen and
merchaunts.

A MIROVR FOR

Citizen calleth euery rascall A ioly Gentleman.

And truely this mortall enuie betweene these two woorthie estates, was first engendred of the cruell vsage of couetous merchaunts, in hard bargaines gotten of Gentlemen, and nourished with malitious words and reuenges taken of both parties. S. Paul by good warrant saith, That couetousnesse is the roote of all mischiefe. S. Augustine saith, that the couetous man is subiect to all euils, for that all euils come of couetousnesse. He moreouer saith, that wilde beasts haue measure, for being hungrie they pursue their praies, and being full are satisfied: but the couetous man is neuer satisfied. He neither feareth God, nor reuerenceth man, pardoneth not his father, nor acknowledgeth his mother, maketh merchandize of his children, regardeth not his brother, nor yet keepeth faith wth his friend, beareth false witnesse, offendeth the widow, & destroyeth the Infant. O how great is y^e follie of our vnderstanding, to lose life, to seeke death, & to banish ourselues from heauen: S. Bernard saith, y^e the accursed chariot of couetousnesse, is drawen with foure discypall wheelles of vices, vz. Pusalanimate, Crueltie misprising of God, and forgetfulnesse of certaine death. The two horses are named Theft, & Hardnesse. The waggoner is Earnest desire to haue, who vseth two sharpe whippes: the one called Disordered appetite to get, the other, Feare to loose. The opinion of Apuleius in his first booke of Magicke is woorthy to be read, who writeth thus. The Philosopher Socrates had not so much riches as Lelius, nor Lelius so much as Scipio, nor Scipio so much as the rich

Tim. i. cap. 6.
The mischiefs
of couetous-
nesse.

Foure wheelles
of the chariot
of couetous-
nesse.
The two
horses.
The waggo-
ner.
The two
whippes.

Craf.

MAGISTRATES OF CITIES. 36

Crassus, nor Crassus so much riches as he desired.

The Emperour Pertinax was so couetous, as he would inuite his friends vnto two small flytes of meate and a dish of apples, and when he would seeme most sumptuous and magnificent, he added the two genitozies of a cocke. Iouian Pontanus saith, that Pope Martin was so couetous, as he would steale euerie night the burning tapers in S. Peters Church. The same Pontanus saith, that a Cardinal named Angel, euerie night would steale away from his own horses bottels of hay, and sell them to other ostlers, vntill his horsekeeper one night (taking of him fardy) swinged him cur- rantly. To conclude the euils of couetous- nesse, with the daungers it bringeth the com- mon wealth vnto. Men that haue licentious- ly spent their substance, and finde no liberalitie to supplie their wants, with straight wayes an alteration of the estate, and what in them lieth practiseth the sam. They fauore vpon ambitious men which are in authoritie, & betweene whom of the noble men is enuie, disdain, or priuat displea- sure, they help for ward y faction, they seeke mat- ter of sedition, which being not wisely suppressed, ciuil commotions, battell, & destruction of people oftentimes followeth. Reade y histories of Rome, & you shal find, that couetousnesse and vsurie haue begun many commotions, and could not be ended vntill the instruments & bonds of debt were can- celled. We need not search so farre, England & al o- ther nations cary a large testimony in their own Chronicles of this fowle matter, and therefore

Pertinax Em-
perour.

Pope Martin

Cardinall An-
gell.

Couetousnes
dangerous e-
nemie to the
common
wealth.

Thucidides saith not vnproperly, That couetousnesse is the nurse of murther, theft, periurie, treason & all abominations: not for that couetous men practise these villanies, but for that by extreme necessitie they driue men to these wicked shifts.

A probleme
pithily answered by a
Frenche Gentleman.

I heard a Frenche Gentleman resolve a probleme very pleasauntly and pithily. An Englishman demaunded the cause, That the young gentilmen of Fraunce flourished more than they of England, considering that the one were consumed with daily warre, when the other had continuall peace to strengthen them. I quoth the Frenche Gentleman, The quietnesse of your peace interrupteth not the deceit of your Citizens, who with the feeding of your pride, deuoureth your liuings: when with vs the troubles of warre so feare them, as to saue the sworde from their throtes, they giue vs the golde in their chests. Fowle fall couetousnesse and vsurie which prooueth his saying true, and more grace or fewe daies happen vnto couetous wretches, who with the vndooing of many in the ende vndoe themselves.

Socrates
common
wealth poore.

Socrates found that aboundance of wealth was the ouerthrowe of many common wealthes, and therefore in his owne common wealth, he would haue the common people poore, and the rest not to haue too much: saying that wealth bred pride, and pride all mischiefes, when pouertie brought forth Science, and all good Arts, and Science all maner of earthly happinesse. Thus one mischiefe

chiefe draweth on an other, and Dyeing houses are the fountaines.

These wicked houses first misleth our young gentlemen in pride, and acquainteth them with fundrie shifting companions, whereof one sort couleneth him at Dice and cardes, an other sort consume him with lecherie, an other sort by brocadge bringeth him in debt, and out of credit, then awayteth couetousnesse and vsurie to sease vpon his liuing, and the vnciuill Sergeant vpon his libertie. To ruine is thus brought the gentleman, a great estate and strength of this Realme, principally by the frequenting of Dicing houses.

Let vs searche Deeper into this vicer, there is more fobole matter behinde, we haue but yet spoken of the better sort of Dicing houses, which are chiefelie for intertainement of Courtiers and other Gentlemen, which by reason of their attendance and businesse keepe no certaine houses. If ordinarie tables be tollerated for their necessitie, what warrant haue the ordinarie table-keepers within the heart of London, (which are commonly called Dicing houses) for Citizens? In euerie Citie, Citizens haue houses of their owne, haue wife, children and familie to care for: and sure the inconuenience cannot but be great, when a man leaueth his owne house, and the companie of his wife and familie, and dineth at a dicing house. In many well governed common wealths, Citizens by especiall Lawes were forbidden to eate and drinke out of their owne houses, vnlesse one neighbour inuited an other: but sufferance hath

Ordinaries
for Citizens
and the in-
conuenience.

A MIROVR FOR

Keepers of
these houses
of bank-
-rowes.

brought this mischief to such a custome, that if there were many more Citizens ordinaries, they should not need to fawn vpon the inferior sort for want of companie of substantiall Citizens. But before we enter further into this mischief, & condition of the keepers of these places is to be considered, for the most part the masters of these houses, in times past haue bene bankrupts, & what may be expected of men of their dispositions: marry a continuance of their facultie, to liue vpon the goods of other men. Hither repaire al & close shifters, here many notozious consinages are smothered, & masters of these houses want no guests, for where carrion is, crows will be plentie, and where money is stirring, chetters will not be idle. Young citizens for & most part depend vpon their credit, & therefore are loath that there should be an open testimony of their vnthriftines. All the better for & biting cheter. Close in a chamber a cogging knaue getteth more money in an houre, than many an honest man spendeth in a yere. And this one thing is much to be lamented, the vnthriftie citizens consume other mens goods, who perhaps laboured painfully to get the (when gentlemen although they vndoe their posterite) spend but their own goods & lands. The eares of the magistrate are daily ful of the breaking of yong merchants, & here I lay before their eies the causes therof, euen these wicked ordinaries. They be places vnto which magistrates come not, & therefore the abuses vnknown vnto them. But I think it a work of much honesty to reueale them, and in the magistrate a work of more iustice to refozme them, and

vn

Undoubtedly although this be true that I write,
& the evils far more than I discover, yet in disco-
uering of the faults & faultie men, I find my con-
science so free from their shiftes, as in writing my
name to this booke, I presume, that no man (as
faultie in that part of reprehension) will say,

Turpe est doctori, cum culpa redarguit ipsum.

But as one that meaneth not to complaine his
losses, to ioyne my owne example with admonitiō
I constantly determine to crosse the streets where
these vile houses are planted, to blesse me from the
inticements of the, which in very deed are many,
& the more dangerous in that they please with a
vain hope of gain. Insomuch on a time I heard a
distemperate dicer solemnly sweare, & he faithfully
beleueed, & dice were first made of the bones of a
witch, & cards of her skin, in which there hath e-
uer sithence remained an enchantment, & whoso-
uer once taketh delight in either, he shall neuer
haue power utterly to leaue them, for quoth he,
I a hundred times vowed to leaue both, yet haue
not & grace to forsake either. But for al his iudge-
ment, if Socrates altered his natural inclination of
insolencie by philosophie: if the wise Vlisses could
eate of the herb called Lotos, & yet by the pleasant-
nesse therof would not be enchanted to remaine in
that countrie, when his companions & seruants
(forgetting their natural land) coueted to remain
stil in & region where that herb grew, & but only
by violence they could not be brought back again
to their ships: if heathen men only by philosophie
could master their dispositiōs, christians by praier
& philosophy may overcome an inticing mischiefe.

A dicers opi-
nion of the
first making of
dice & cards.

I will.

But

A MIROVR FOR

Judge Chom-
leys aunswere
to thecues
that sued for
mercie.

But vnto this possibilitie of reformation, wise men are to giue light credence. Olde Judge Chomley euermore aunswered naughtie liuers that sued for mercie, Desiring him to regard the frailtie of young men, by the bolde and vnlawful actions of his owne youth, and by the testimonie of his grace, good fortune, and present authoritie, to conceiue hope of their amendement: O my friendes, quoth the Judge, I tel you plainly, that of twentie that in those dayes were my companions, I onely escaped hanging: and it is very like, that some one of your fellowship is by Gods goodnesse reserved to be an honest man, but you are found offenders by the Lawe, and truly iustice (whose sentence I am sworne to pronounce) commaundeth me to commend your soules to Almighty God, and your bodies to the Gallows. This notable Judge in his aunswere was not short and sweete, but round and seuer. Great is the pitie that of twentie offenders there should but one become a good man. Howe high a worke were it then of charitie and mercie to preserue men from notable offences: Certainly farre greater, than to pardon offenders. For by the wisdom of the first, vice shall be driven to her shifts, when the mildenesse of the seconde many times breedeth presumption. If the good magistrates of this Citie, bled the diligence of the forereported Censors of Rome, in short space the case would be altered, and in time custome would make men honest, which without discipline can haue no beginning. There is an olde prouerbe, The eye of the

the master, doth as much worke as the handes of the
servant. If the magistrats succelde but these vile
houses by honest conservatores, you should finde
the painefull travels of capital Magistrats much
eased, many mens lives shalbe saued, Gentlemen
shall have more lande, and Citizens greater store
of money: which mettall is the greatest strength
of a Citie, for where mony is not scarce, traffike
is plentie, which chiefly supporteth al Cities. And
therfore in many wel goverened comon wealthes,
Citizens (to the ende they should onely imploye
their money in trafficke) were forbidden to pur-
chase lande, other than a garden for recreation.
But to my purpose, these denefull houses are chur-
les that merchants have so much lande, and Gen-
tlemen so litle vertue.

Citizens for-
bidden to pur-
chase lande.

It is already shewen, to what extremitie the
better sort of these houses bring a great number
of our flourishing Gentlemen. To what miserie
the seconde sort (called ordinaries for Citizens)
bring a great number of young merchants.
Now remayneth the discomerie of the thirde sort
of these hauntes, which are placed in Alies, gar-
dens, and other obscure corners out of the com-
mon walks of the Magistrate. The dayly guests
of these private houses, are maisterles men, need-
shifters, theevs, cutpurses, dishonest servants,
both servingmen, and prentises. Here a man
may pick out mates for all purposes, save such
as are good. Here a man may finde out Braucos
of Rome and Naples, who for a pottle of wine,
will make no more conscience to kill a man, than a
Butcher a beast; heare closely lie good fellowes,

Ordinaries for
maisterles me,
shifters, &c.

that with a good dog, then Gelding, will gaine
more by a halter, than an honest yeoman will
with a teame of good horses. Heare are they,
that will not let to deceaue their father, to robbe
their brother, and fire their neighbours house for
an aduantage. These frannions will not sticke
to spende frankely, although they haue neither
landes nor goods by the dead, nor honestie by na-
ture. But how will this hold out: fire will con-
sume wood without maintenance, and ryot a
weake purse without supply. The Gentlemen
(for the most) haue landes to make money, and
young marchants waies to get credite, but the
most of these idle persons haue neither landes
nor credite, nor will liue by an honest occupation:
forsooth they haue yet handes to filch, heades to
deceiue, and friendes to receiue: and by these
helpes, shift meetely badly wth l. The other vpon
current assurance, perhaps get money, for twen-
tie markes or twenty poundes in the hundred.
But these that worst may hold the candle, they
vpon their owne, as maisters apparell, bra-
peater, shertes, shirts, ac. finde Brokers, or scrip-
perers, that for a shilling in the pounce, for every
moneth, will boundly, for halfe the ballue take
these paynes. Certainly it seemeth that London
is sore charged with these makeshiftes, for that
almost in every streete and lane there dwelleth
two or three of these pettie brokers, or cherish-
theeues. And I pray to God, that in Cheape side,
and other principall streetes, although gould, sil-
uer, silkes and other costly merchandise be open-
ly in the shops, that in many mens cofers there
lie

Brokers cal-
led cherish-
theeues.

Learn this
Cardinals
name.

He not Cardinall Campeius sumpter rigger.
Fiftie or sixtie in the hundred is sweete game,
and a double paine taketh away all feare of the
statute. A Iulsh vsurie, high time to bee rooted
out of a Christian gouernement. By ouer long
sufferaunce howe much London hath blemished
her auncient vertues, and indaungered her peace
and prosperitie, is not to be recounted. In the
time of King Henrie the third, the good citizens
of London in one night slew five hundred Jewes
for that a Jewe tooke of a Christian a pennie in
the shilling vsurie: and ever after got them banis-
shed the Citie: if the like Justice were done vpon
on Iulsh Christians, London would haue manie
houses emptie, and her Churches and Church-
yardes would be too scant to receiue dead car-
tions. Truly these Acheills deserue worse than
Jewes, for they more sharply execute the trade
of Jewes. The Jewes spoile not one another,
but Christians, whom they esteeme as dogges,
when these counterfeiters make no difference of per-
sons. The good Maiestrates must ouerlooke
this euill, or else the euill will ouerrule their pro-
speritie. It is a great miracle (but that God is
mercifull) that this Citie is not alwaies grie-
uously afflicted with the plague, when sacred is
the authoritie that sayth, The plague shall not de-
part the house of the sweare. I imagine that de-
lers cure one poyson with an other, who gape so
wilde to blasphemie God, as they swallowe the
Deuill into their bowels, vpon whom no plague
but hell fire will fasten. How needfull a thing is
it to looke vnto these places where this outrage

The poyson of
the deuill
is swallowed
into the bowels
of the blasphemers
and is the cause
of the plague.

all the
the
men

is done into God. Thus be you they may not
be made instruments to nourish traiterous practi-
ces. The conspiracie of Madder and Barloe, was
hatched in a tabling house, in the white fryers.
Where is the currant of newes but in tabling
houses, foraine explorers and faulse subiectes,
there heere much matter intreated at counsell
brides. Where is a desperate Achiest like vnto
barebraine Somerville so ready to be found, as in
a tabling house. Obstinate Papists that dare
not live in the countrey for feare of the statute,
monthly shift their lodgings, and without sus-
pition heere dayly receiue their dyet. Launce an
olde feasted sore, and you are like to finde corrup-
tion more than of one humour. But admit they
proue nobaites for such purposes: they are the
links of the forereported mischiefes. The undo-
ing of many, and the honest game of no man.
The Gentleman excuseth his repaire to them, be-
cause he keepeth no certaine house, and likewise
alleadgeth conversation of equals: but as he fin-
deth no thrift in the first, so he is often deceiued in
the seconde. A tabling house is like vnto a strum-
pet, who is readie to receiue euery mans money.
And many times men of great worshippe, are
bearded, and brayed, with inferiours to some of
their seruantes. The Gentleman of Naples is
highly to be commended, for this honorable dis-
position, how meane so euer his living be, yet he
will furnish his owne table: so he both auoydeth
the controulement of superiours, and the checke
of inferiours. Would our English gentler-
man did the like, they would like very well of the
change.

The honora-
ble disposition
of the Napo-
litan gentle-
man.

change. By this frugallitie, the Napolitan Canelier like things 100. crownes a yeare, and our spot maketh no shew of so much a moneth. But you will say they starue themselves: but did euer any see a man to die of hunger, where meate was to be sold, if he had gate clothes to his backe, it seemeth he contenteth nature; which is plentie enough, where our gluttonie are euerie where called English bellies. Very few of our gentlemē die old men by inordinate feeding, our memorie, wit, and minde, which is immortall, is daylie dulled, weakened and almost slaine by surfeits. Let vs excuse the matter as we please, wee receiue no better remedie by our excuse, than Mahomet had for the fawling sicknesse, by coloring his disease, in giuing out that his passion proceeded of the brightnesse of an Angell, which in those fittes reuealed heauenly matters vnto him. But if men will deceiue them selues by deluding others, they shall finde had I wist a bitter pill to digest. I neede shew no other examples than the daylie fallies of young Gentlemen that trust to the fortune of these intising dicing houses, where vertue is shut in the cole seller, and vice and all coruening villanies, set in the chiefe places of the hall. And therefore happie is he, that is either aduised by good counsell, or warned by other mens harmes.

A care to continue & prosperitie of this famous Citie, will no doubt cause her Capitall magistrates shortly to looke into the behauiours of riotous Citizens, their vnhappinesse consisteth more than their owne goods, and vnder many that

The exceeding mercie
of y^e Queenes
Maiestie e-
ternized by
straungers.

that trouble painefully for their living. The ex-
ample of monethly iustice, sufficeth to dismay the
third sort of vnchristie liners. There are more ex-
ecuted from Newgate and the Marshallsies, than
in three of the greatest Cities of Fraunce, and
yet I truely say, that more offenders are fauou-
rably quitted, and pardoned in London in one
moneth, than in Paris in a whole yere, so exceeding
great is the mercie of our most good Queene Eli-
zabeth, the remembraunce whereof may not
passe without zealous thanks vnto God for
her thirle excellent Maiestie, least straungers
condemne her naturall subiects of ingratitude,
who to eternize this pretious vertue of mer-
cie, rooted in the magnanimous heart of her ex-
cellencie, in commemoration thereof, haue writ-
ten many learned booke. Others haue raised
Disputatioun, whether it be a vertue more holy,
in her Maiestie, or dangerous for her true sub-
iects: for feare least her clemencie extend vnto
persons of the disposition of the frosen snake,
whiche the pitifull husbandman cherished by the
fire, vntill she offered to sting his children: and
truely whether presumption or necessitie were
the cause, I leave to iudge: but I craue Gods
wrath as iustice, if I speake not the trueth: In
Rome, euen in that Rome, where the Pope and her
woorst enemy raigneth, among English fugitives,
not woorthie of the benefite of her good subiects,
plentie, peace and prosperitie. There was (which
with mine owne eares I heard) that wished impri-
sonment in the Fleete at the Queenes mercie, rather
than libertie in Rome. It is apparant that her
Highnesse

Hignesse mildenes exceedeth, and it seemeth that the Popes boontie is not verie plentiful, saue vnto such, as rather carrie sedition than zeale in their countenance. When such as cannot be contented to be good subiects, affie more in her clemencie (if shame held the not backe) than in the Popes holinesse, for all his golden shewes. In my booke entituled, The blessings of Peace, this digression shall be liuely set forth. In the meane space & many happy yerres after, I humbly beseech Almighty God to forget our vnworthinesse, by remembrance of her worthinesse, that she may in al felicitie still raigne among vs as the image of his glorie, and the comfort of all true Christians. Amen.

Againe to my purpose: Though there cannot be too much good spoken of her Maiesties gracious & sweet mercie, yet cruertie may no wayes be termed crueltie, so that no more than Lawe be ministred to notable malefactors. London is so plentifull of notorious coufeners, cheters, and Dishonest liuers, and withall so blemished with heynous coufengages and Deceites, as a young man, bulesse he haue an olde mans experience, can hardly auoide their snares.

Many newe kinde of shifts, which none but the Deuill could inuent, and verie Atheistes execute, by the wisdom of graue Maiestates haue beene sifted forth: wherein reuerent personages were in danger of Dishonour, and innocentes in hazarde of death. It is a matter offresh memorie. The publike mischief that of late yeaeres was hatched in these wicked houses, and growento the great losse, hinderance, and halfe vndoing of more than two hundred Gentlemen, honest citizens and peomen, yet God which is iust, hath rewarded many of the Decei-
uers

uers according to their euill Deseruings. **N**o man was ever assaulted with a more daungerous strategeme of colsonage than my selfe, with which my life & living was hardly beset. No man hath more cause to thanke God for a free deliuey than my selfe, nor any man ever sawe, more suddaine vengeance inflicted vpon his aduersaries, than I my selfe of mine as liuely appeareth in the ende of my booke int^{ed}. The rocke of regarde, imprinted many yeares past.

And although to cure the extremitie I then sated as a man soze scalded with fire, which in hope of ease leapeth into colde water, which presently stripeth off his skin. So I that had experience of strangers huge deceite, thought that the pleasing perswasion of neare friendes, would turne to a comfortable remedie, but I finde the olde Larkes song true: There is no trust in faire words, nor assurance in natures obligations. But after three yeares & more of costly sute my greeuous oppression (God be therfore prayesd) hath pearled the inclining eares, of the right Honorable, and Gracious Judge, the L. Chancelor of Englande: by whose wisdom & graue iudgement, I constantly beleue, to be releued & released of the toile of Law: vpon whose commaundement, with all humilitie, reuerence and dutie I attend, beseeching Almighty God to preserue the blessed estate of ^hQueens most excellent maiestie here vpon earth: the lieutenant of his diuine graces: the right honorable Lordes of the priuie Counsell, the true images of wisdom: and all other Capitall and good Magistrates, the strong pillars of this happie gouernement. And to the friendly readers of this booke, I wish the benefit of my travels, and to the reprehenders amendment of life.

FINIS.

